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ABSTRACT

As Part VI of a series of publications of American Indian tribal governmental documents, this volume contains charters, resolutions, constitutions, and by-laws of some of the Indian tribes of Oklahoma. Twenty-two such documents are included, representing the following tribes: Ottawa, Pawnee, Peoria, Ponca, Potawatomi, Sac and Fox, Seminole, Seneca-Cayuga, Shawnee, Thlopthlocco, Tonkawa, Wichita, and Wyandotte. (EL)

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# CHARTERS, CONSTITUTIONS AND BY-LAWS OF THE INDIAN TRIBES OF NORTH AMERICA

## Part VI: [The Indian Tribes of Oklahoma (Ottawa - Wyandotte)]

compiled/edited by

George E. Fay

Museum of Anthropology
Univ of Northern Colorado
~~Colorado State College~~

Greeley, Colorado
80631

May, 1968

RC004944

## Acknowledgments

The editor is indebted to the following persons for providing, and extending permission to reproduce herein, the charters, resolutions, constitutions and by-laws of the Indian Tribes of Oklahoma (Ottawa-Wyandotte).

**

John Brown, Chairman of the General Council, Seminole Nation, Sasakwa, Oklahoma: Seminole Tribe.

Clyde Bussey, Tribal Operations Officer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Muskogee Area Office, Muskogee, Oklahoma: Ottawa Tribe, Peoria Tribe, and the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

William W. Grissom, Superintendent of the Anadarko Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anadarko, Oklahoma: Wichita Tribe.

Robert D. Grover, Superintendent of the Pawnee Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Pawnee, Oklahoma: Pawnee Tribe, Ponca Tribe, and the Tonkawa Tribe.

Sally Rosenberg, Bureau Correspondence Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.: Citizen Band of Potawatomi, Prairie Band of Potawatomi, Sac and Fox Tribe, Seneca-Cayuga Tribe, Absentee-Shawnee and Eastern Shawnee Tribes, and the Wyandotte Tribe.

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

Corporate Charter of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 1

Constitution and By-Laws of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 6

Corporate Charter of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 11

Constitution and By-Laws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 17

Corporate Charter of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 25

Constitution and By-Laws of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . 30

Corporate Charter of the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 35

Constitution and By-Laws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 40

Constitution and By-Laws of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . 48

Constitution and By-Laws of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 55

Constitution and By-Laws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . 59

Revised Constitution and By-Laws of the General Council of the Seminole Tribe or Nation of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 69

Corporate Charter of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 73

Constitution and By-Laws of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 78

Constitution and By-Laws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma . . . . . . . 83

Corporate Charter of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 94

Constitution and By-Laws of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 99

Constitution and By-Laws of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 104

Constitution and By-Laws of the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 109

Governing Rules and Regulations of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 114

Corporate Charter of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma . 120

Constitution and By-Laws of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 125

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# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE
# OTTAWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified June 2, 1939

Whereas, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized Tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on October 10, 1938, and ratified by the Indians of the said Tribe on November 30, 1938, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 ( 49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said Tribe, by resolution of the Ottawa Business Committee duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said Tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the members of the Tribe;

Now, therefore, I, Oscar L. Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this charter of incorporation to the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Ottawa Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma and its members;

(b) To advance the standard of living of the Tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing landholdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe;

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership, and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said Tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated Tribe shall be as provided in the said Constitution and By-laws.

3. Corporate Powers. The Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of Sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of Section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 ( 48 Stat. 984) and Section 6 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967) or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Tribe.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Ottawa Tribe.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the Tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or federal projects for the benefit of the Tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the Tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Ottawa Tribe.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of the Council and Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Ottawa Indians.

(q) To impose penalites on members of the Ottawa Tribe for violation of the corporate by-laws or ordinances, not exceeding in any case $100 for any one offense, or in the alternative, expulsion from the Tribe or suspension of voting rights therein.

(r) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal.

(s) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(t) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(u) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the Tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(v) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations.

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income shall be made for more than five years in advance, except as security for a loan which has been used to create such income.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than $300 or of more than $100 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $500.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe, in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of review established by section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Ottawa Council. At or before the expiration of this ten-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Ottawa Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Ottawa Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individuals, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an Act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to referendum vote by all members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, provided that at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Quapaw Indian Agency and by the Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Assistant Secretary-Treasurer of the Interior for ratification by the Ottawa Tribe.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[ SEAL ]

Washington, D. C., April 15, 1939.

***

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1938 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached charter of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Charter all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Charter and the Constitution and By-laws, approved by me October 10, 1938 and duly ratified by the Tribe on November 30, 1938, are declared inapplicable to the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, and the Charter if, and when, ratified by the Tribe.

Approval recommended March 31, 1939.

WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN, JR.,
Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., April 15, 1939.

***

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on April 15, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on June 2, 1939 duly ratified by a vote of 79 for, and 1 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

GUY JENNISON,
Chief, Ottawa Tribe.
BRONSON EDWARDS,
Secretary-Treasurer, Ottawa Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent, Quapaw Indian Agency.

***

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE OTTAWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified November 30, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the Ottawa Indians of Oklahoma, in order to take advantage of the opportunities of economic independence and social advancement offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby amend our present Constitution and By-laws and do adopt the following Constitution and By-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — OBJECT

The object shall be to promote the general welfare of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1938.

(b) All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(c) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Ottawa Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe whose parents choose to enroll said child with the Ottawa Tribe.

(d) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Ottawa Tribe and any other person, if such child is one-sixteenth or more degree of Indian blood and is enrolled on the official Tribal roll before attaining the age of five years; if less than one-sixteenth, said child may be admitted to membership by a majority vote of the Ottawa Council.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have the power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and loss of membership.

## ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of this organization shall be the Ottawa Council. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma:

males, 21 years of age; and females, 18 years of age, of sound mind.

## ARTICLE V — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the Chief, Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, and two councilmen, who shall be elected at an open Council meeting by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE VI — BUSINESS COMMITTEE

There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article V.

The Business Committee shall have power to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Ottawa Tribe, in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter which may be requested by the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Grievance Committee.—This Committee consisting of three members shall be elected by the Ottawa Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Credit Committee.—The Credit Committee shall be chosen by the Business Committee and shall act under the supervision of the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. Welfare Committee.—This Committee shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

SEC. 4. Education Committee.—This Committee likewise shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Regular elections of officers shall be held by the Council on the first Monday of May, 1939, and on each odd-numbered year thereafter: Provided, That the present officers shall hold office until the first regular election.

SEC. 2. The term of office shall be for two years or until their successors are elected and installed: Provided, That the present officers shall serve until the first regular election.

SEC. 3. Nominations shall be made from the floor. Election shall be by standing vote or by written ballot, a majority vote being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates and no one receives a majority vote the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting proceed until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE IX — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for the unexpired term at any regular or special meeting of the Ottawa Council.

## ARTICLE X — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct or other acts of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Ottawa Council to act upon such complaints. Such council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

***

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chief.—It shall be the duty of the chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, also to act as Chairman of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Second Chief.—In the absence of the chief or during removal proceedings of the chief, the second chief shall perform the duties of that officer. In case of vacancy, the second chief shall succeed at once to the office of chief until the next special or regular election for the office of chief.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the chief, shall notify all committees of their appointment, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the chief and second chief, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all Tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of Tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership in the Business Committee shall be not less than twenty-five years of age, a member of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma and a resident of Ottawa County in Oklahoma. Any member of the Business Committee removing from such territory shall automatically lose his office.

## ARTICLE III — REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Council shall be held on the first Monday of May of each year at the Ottawa Indian Church, unless some other point under the Ottawa jurisdiction is specifically designated in the call.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or the written request of 20 members of the Council.

SEC. 3. The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. The regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held the first Monday in January, April, July and October, unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Three members of the Business Committee constitute a quorum at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Twenty members of the Ottawa Council shall constitute a quorum to transact regular business.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be efective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the Indians of the Ottawa Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, provided that at least 30% of the eligible voters vote in such election.

I, E. K. Burlew, the Acting Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached constitution and by-laws of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the Tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this constitution all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said constitution and bylaws, are declared inapplicable to the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said constitution and by-laws.

Approval recommended October 5, 1938.

F. H. DAIKER,
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

E. K. BURLEW,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 10, 1938.

***

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved October 10, 1938 by the Acting Secretary of the Interior, the attached constitution and by-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Ottawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on November 30, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 93 for, and none against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE OTTAWA BUSINESS COMMITTEE,

BY GUY JENNISON, Chief.
L. H. DAGENETTE.
FRED S. KING.
DAVE GEBOE, Second Chief.
ABE G. WILLIAMS, Secretary-Treasurer.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent, Quapaw Agency.

***

# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE

# PAWNEE INDIAN TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified April 28, 1938

Whereas, the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized Tribe of Indians residing Oklahoma, organized under a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on November 26, 1937, and ratified by the Indians of the said Tribe on January 6, 1938, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said Tribe, by resolution of the Pawnee Business Council duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said Tribe, subject to ratification by vote of the members of the Tribe;

Now, therefore, I, Oscar L. Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this charter of incorporation to the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Pawnee Indian Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma and its members.

(b) To advance the standard of living of the Tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing land holdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe.

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said Tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated Tribe shall be as provided in the said constitution and by-laws.

3. Corporate Powers. The Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and to be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of Section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and Section 6 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967) or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Tribe.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Pawnee Indian Tribe.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the Tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or federal projects for the benefit of the Tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the Tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Pawnee Indian Tribe.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of tribal meetings and the Pawnee Business Council and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Pawnee Indian Tribe.

(q) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal.

(r) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(s) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(t) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any co-operative association which is open to all members of the Tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(u) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of the Government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas, or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit, or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit, or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under Section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income, other than assignments to the United States, shall be made for more than five years in advance.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixings of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to Section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representatives:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than a total sum of $3,000 or of more than $1,200 in any one year.

17

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $1,000.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of review established by Section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Pawnee Business Council and the Nasharo Council. At or before the expiration of this ten-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the combined Pawnee Indian Council and the Nasharo Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, by-laws or charter of the said Tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the constitution and by-laws or charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Pawnee Indian Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individual, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an Act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Pawnee Business Council or by a petition by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to referendum vote of all adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership voting in person, provided that at least 50 votes are cast.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma: Provided, That at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Pawnee Indian Agency and by the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[ SEAL ]

Washington, D. C., March 29, 1938.

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I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached charter of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the Tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Charter all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said charter and the Constitution and By-laws, approved by me on November 26, 1937, and duly ratified by the Tribe on Jnauary 6, 1938, are declared inapplicable to the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, and the charter if, and when, ratified by the Tribe.

Approval recommended March 22, 1938.

WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN, JR.,
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[ SEAL]

Washington, D. C., March 29, 1938.

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on March 29, 1938 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on April 28, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 155 for, and 27 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

GEORGE H. ROBERTS,
President of the Business Council

HARRY D. CUMMINGS,
Secretary-Treasurer of the Business Council.

LEM A. TOWERS,
Superintendent, Pawnee Indian Agency.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PAWNEE INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified January 6, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the four confederated bands of Indians, namely, Chaui, Kitkehahke, Petahauerat and Skedee, which now constitute the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, with faith in the purposes of our Supreme Being, with abounding pride in our racial heritages and with the determination to promote through marshalled efforts our social, economic and political advancement, do solemnly ordain and establish this organization and adopt this Constitution and By-laws pursuant to the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the "Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma".

## ARTICLE II — PURPOSE

The purposes of this organization shall be:

(a) To define, establish, and safeguard the rights, powers and privileges of the Tribe and its members;

(b) To secure for the Tribe and its members the rights, powers, privileges and benefits available under the provisions of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act.

(c) To promote in other ways the common welfare of the Tribe and its membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons enrolled or entitled to be enrolled on the official annuity roll of the Tribe as of February 19, 1937;

(b) All children born since the date of said roll of a lawful marriage, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe;

SEC. 2. The Pawnee Business Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations covering future membership of the Tribe, including the adoption and loss of membership, provided;

(a) That such rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior;

(b) That such rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Nasharo Council.

(c) That, after one year from the adoption of this Constitution, no person shall be admitted to membership who is of less than one-fourth degree Pawnee Indian blood.

## ARTICLE IV — PAWNEE BUSINESS COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Pawnee Business Council, which shall consist of eight members.

SEC. 2. The Pawnee Business Council shall have power to appoint subordinate officers, committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act, provided:

(a) That the powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in a Federal Charter to be requested by the Pawnee Business Council;

(b) That acts of the Pawnee Business Council shall be subject to review of the Nasharo Council in accordance with Section 2 of Article V of this Constitution.

SEC. 3. The present Pawnee Business Council shall serve till the next regular election provided for in Section 4 of this Article, or until their successors are elected and installed, provided:

(a) That within thirty days after the adoption of this Constitution, the said Council shall organize for business by selecting from among its own membership a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall serve in these respective offices at the will of this Council.

SEC. 4. Regular elections of members of the Pawnee Business Council shall be held on the first Saturday in May, 1939, and on the first Saturday in May of each second year thereafter, provided:

(a) That such elections shall be held under rules and regulations prescribed by the Pawnee Business Council;

(b) That all members of the Pawnee Indian Tribe, twenty-one years of age or older, shall be eligible to vote in these elections;

(c) That any person, in order to be eligible for election to membership on the Pawnee Business Council, must be a male member of the Pawnee Indian Tribe, twenty-five years of age or older, and a resident of the territory known as the original Pawnee Indian Reservation in Oklahoma.

(d) That a member of the Nasharo Council shall not be eligible for election to the Pawnee Business Council.

(e) That members of the Pawnee Business Council elected pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be installed immediately after their election and the respective councils shall then organize for business by selecting from among their own membership a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer who shall serve at the will of the respective councils.

SEC. 5. All acts of the Pawnee Business Council shall be determined by a majority vote of the membership present, provided that five members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

SEC. 6. Regular meetings of the Pawnee Business Council shall be held on the first Saturday in February, May, August, and November of each year, provided:

(a) That special meetings may be called by the President at his discretion and shall be called by him upon the written request of five members of the Pawnee Business Council.

SEC. 7. Vacancies in the membership of the Pawnee Business Council shall be filled for an unexpired term through appointment by the President, subject to the approval of the Council.

## ARTICLE V — NASHARO COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The Nasharo Council shall consist of eight members selected from the chieftainships of the following tribal bands: Chaui, Kitkehahke, Petahauerat and Skedee, provided:

(a) That each band shall have two representatives on the Nasharo Council.

SEC. 2. The Nasharo Council shall have the right to review all acts of the Pawnee Business Council regarding tribal membership and tribal claims or rights growing out of treaties between the Tribe and the United States, provided:

(a) That such acts of the Pawnee Business Council shall be valid and effective unless formally disapproved by the Nasharo Council within thirty days after such acts are referred to the latter Council.

(b) That where such acts are disapproved by the Nasharo Council, the Pawnee Business Council may submit them to a referendum of the Tribe and they shall be valid and effective if approved by a majority vote of the adult members voting in person, provided that at least 50 votes are cast.

SEC. 3. Within thirty days after the adoption of this Constitution, the tribal bands, referred to in Section 1 of this Article, shall select their respective representatives under rules and regulations prescribed by the respective band chiefs, subject to the approval of the Superintendent of the Pawnee Indian Agency, provided:

(a) That the representatives so selected shall serve till the next regular selection of members of the Nasharo Council as provided for in Section 4 of this Article, or until their successors are selected.

SEC. 4. Regular selections of members of the Nasharo Council shall be made on the first Saturday in May 1941, and on the first Saturday in May of each fourth year thereafter, provided:

(a) That such selections shall be made under rules and regulations prescribed by the Nasharo Council.

SEC. 5. Any person selected to membership on the Nasharo Council shall be a member of the band which he represents and shall not be a member of the Pawnee Business Council.

SEC. 6. Vacancies in the membership of this Council shall be filled for an unexpired term in the same manner in which the preceding representative had been selected.

SEC. 7. The Nasharo Council shall have the power to establish its own offices and to designate its own officers, to fix its own meeting days and to adopt its own rules of procedure, provided that five members shall constitute a quorum to transact business. Records of the proceedings of this body shall be kept and a copy forwarded to the Superintendent of the Reservation.

## ARTICLE VI — REMOVAL OF PAWNEE BUSINESS COUNCIL MEMBERS

SECTION 1. The Nasharo Council shall investigate complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Pawnee Business Council and upon a proper showing shall call a joint meeting of the Pawnee Business Council and the Nasharo Council to act upon such complaints. Such joint council shall have the power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office, provided that at least five members from each of the councils are present.

## ARTICLE VII — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Pawnee Business Council or by a petition signed by thirty per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a two-thirds vote of the adult members voting in person, provided that at least fifty votes are cast.

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# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Pawnee Business Council, joint meetings of the Pawnee Business Council and the Nasharo Council, and all general tribal meetings. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Pawnee Business Council and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of President.

SEC. 2. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of that office. In case of vacancy, the Vice-President shall succeed at once to the office of the President until a President is regularly selected.

SEC. 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings of the Pawnee Business Council, joint meetings of the Pawnee Business Council and the Nasharo Council, and all general tribal meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the President, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Pawnee Business Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Tribe desiring to read same. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Tribe, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Pawnee Business Council and, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, shall call meetings to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render written reports upon the order of the Pawnee Business Council. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Pawnee Business Council. He shall receive all moneys of the Pawnee Business Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all such moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and shall disburse said funds only upon the order of the Pawnee Business Council. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Pawnee Business Council and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of Tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — PLACE OF MEETINGS

Unless some other point under the Pawnee Indian Agency Jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Pawnee Business Council and of the Nasharo Council shall be held at Pawnee, Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE III — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority of the members of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under the rules and regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 26, 1937. [SEAL]

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved November 26, 1937 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma and was on January 6, 1938 duly adopted by a vote of 197 for, and 60 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahome Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

GEORGE H. ROBERTS
President, Pawnee Business Council.

HARRY D. CUMMINGS,
Secretary-Treasurer, Pawnee Business Council.

LEM A. TOWERS,
Superintendent, Pawnee Indian Agency.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

## OF THE PAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

All amendments pertain to Article IV.

AMENDMFNT I.

Article IV, Section 4(a) of the Constitution shall be amended to read as follows:

> "SEC. 4. ...
>
> (a) That such elections shall be held under rules and regulations prescribed by the Pawnee Business Council which shall include provisions for absentee balloting."

### APPROVAL

I, John A. Carver, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: January 29, 1963

JOHN O. CROW
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

JOHN A. CARVER, JR.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 4, 1963.

[Seal]

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### CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved March 4, 1963, by the Assistant Secretary of the

Interior, the attached Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Pawnee Tribe, and on April 6, 1963, was ratified by a vote of 142 for, and 6 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

DELBERT HORSECHIEF, JR.
Chairman, Pawnee Business Council.

H. L. GARDNER
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT II.

Article IV, Section 4(a) of the Constitution shall be deleted in its entirety and shall read as follows:

"SEC. 4. ...

(c) That any person, in order to be eligible for election to membership on the Pawnee Business Council, must be a male member of the Pawnee Tribe of Indians, twenty-five years of age or older."

APPROVAL

I, John A. Carver, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: January 29, 1963

JOHN O. CROW
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

JOHN A. CARVER, JR.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 4, 1963.

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CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved March 4, 1963, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Pawnee Tribe, and on April 6, 1963, was ratified by a vote of 134 for, and 14 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

DELBERT HORSECHIEF, JR.
Chairman, Pawnee Business Council.

H. L. GARDNER
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

AMENDMENT III.

Article IV of the Constitution shall be amended by adding to Section 4 a new sub-section (f) which shall read as follows:

> "SEC. 4. ...
>
> (f) That if a member of the council fails or refuses to attend two (2) regular meetings in succession, unless excused due to illness or other causes for which he cannot be held responsible, his office shall be declared forfeited by a resolution of the Pawnee Business Council, and the vacancy shall be filled pursuant to Article IV, Section 7 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma."

## APPROVAL

I, John A. Carver, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: January 29, 1963.

JOHN O. CROW
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

JOHN A. CARVER, JR.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 4, 1963.

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved March 4, 1963, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Pawnee Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Pawnee Tribe, and on April 6, 1963, was ratified by a vote of 138 for, and 10 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

DELBERT HORSECHIEF, JR.
Chairman, Pawnee Business Council.

H. L. GARDNER
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified June 1, 1940

Whereas, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a constitution and by-laws approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on August 16, 1939, and ratified by the Indians of the said tribe on October 10, 1939, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said tribe, by resolution of the Peoria Business Committee duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the members of the tribe;

Now, therefore, I, W. C. Mendenhall, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this charter of incorporation to the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Peoria Tribe voting: *Provided*, *however*, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote.

1. *Corporate Purposes.* The corporate purposes of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and its members;

(b) To advance the standard of living of the tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing landholdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe;

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

2. *Name, Membership and Organization.* The name of this corporation shall be the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of said tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated tribe shall be as provided in the said constitution and by-laws.

3. *Corporate Powers.* The Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and section 6 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the tribe, and to use such funds directly for productive tribal enterprises, or to loan money thus borrowed to individual members or associations of members of the tribe; Provided, That the amount of indebtedness to which the tribe may subject itself, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, shall not exceed $150.00, except with the express approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or Federal projects for the benefit of the tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of the Council and Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

(q) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal, subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter.

(r) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(s) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma by treaty.

(t) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the tribe, any of the foregoing powers reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(u) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit, or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom sudh lease, permit, or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under Section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income shall be made for more than five years in advance, except as security for a loan which has been used to create such income.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to Section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than $300, or of more than $100 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $150.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this charter, any power of review established by Section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Peoria Council. At or before the expiration of this ten-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Peoria Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Peoria Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individual, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of all the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, provided that at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote , such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Quapaw Agency and by The Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Peoria Tribe.

W. C. MENDENHALL,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., April 17, 1940.

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I, W. C. Mendenhall, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached charter of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Charter all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Charter and the Constitution and By-laws, approved by me August 19, 1939 and duly ratified by the tribe on October 10, 1939, are declared inapplicable to the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, and the Charter if, and when, ratified by the Tribe.

Approval recommended April 5, 1940.

F. H. DAIKER,
Assistant to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

W. C. MENDENHALL,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., April 17, 1940.

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CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on April 17, 1940, by the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on June 1, 1940, duly accepted by a vote of 71 for, and none against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

GEORGE SKYE,
Chief, Peoria Tribe.
ALICE O. EVERSOLE,
Secretary-Treasurer, Peoria Tribe

H. A. ANDREWS,
Supt., Quapaw Indian Agency.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PEORIA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified October 10, 1939

## PREAMBLE

We, the Peoria Indians of Oklahoma, in order to take advantage of the opportunities of economic independence and social advancement offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do adopt the following constitution and by-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

(b) All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(c) Any child who has been or may be born of a marriage between a member of the Peoria Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe and who chooses to affiliate with the Peoria Tribe.

(d) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Peoria Tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council of the Peoria Tribe.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Peoria Council. The membership of the Peoria Council shall be all the Peoria Indians residing in Oklahoma; 21 years of age and over.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the Chief, Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, and two Councilmen, who shall be elected at an open council meeting by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. The Business Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter to be requested by the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Grievance Committee.—This Committee shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the membership of the council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee. The term of office shall be for two years.

## ARTICLE VI — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Regular elections of officers shall be held by the council on the first Tuesday of March 1940, and each fourth year thereafter.

SEC. 2. The term of office shall be for four years or until their successors are elected and installed, provided that the present officers shall serve until the first regular election.

SEC. 3. Nominations shall be made from the floor. Election shall be by standing vote or by written ballot, a majority vote being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates and no one receives a majority vote the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting proceed until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE VII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Peoria Council.

## ARTICLE VIII — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct or other acts of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Peoria Council to act upon such complaints. Such council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE IX — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote of those voting in the election.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE PEORIA TRIBE

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chief.—It shall be the duty of the Chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, also to act as chairman of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Second Chief.—In the absence of the Chief, or during procedure to remove him, the Second Chief shall perform the duties of that officer. In case of vacancy, the Second Chief shall succeed at once to the office of the Chief until the next special or regular election for the office of Chief.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the Chief, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of all records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the council and, in the absence of the Chief and Second Chief, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership in the Business Committee shall be not less than 25 years of age, a member of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, and a resident of the Quapaw Indian Agency jurisdiction. Any member of the Business Committee removing from the State of Oklahoma shall automatically lose his office.

## ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the council shall be held on the first Tuesday of March for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the council may be called at the discretion of the Chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of ten members of the Tribe: Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. Unless otherwise provided by resolution, the regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held the last Saturday in each month.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 6. Unless some other point under the Quapaw Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the council and of the Business Committee shall be held at the Quapaw Indian Agency.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Twenty-five members of the Peoria Council shall constitute a quorum to transact regular business.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the Indians of the Peoria Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936: Provided, That at least 20 per cent of the eligible voters vote in such election.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 16, 1939.

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved August 16, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Peoria Indian Tribe of Oklahoma and was on October 10, 1939 duly accepted by a vote of 69 for, and none against, in an election in which over 20 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE PEORIA BUSINESS COMMITTEE,

By
GEORGE SKY,
LEO FINLEY,
ADA MOORE PALMER,
SHERMAN STATON.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent, Quapaw Agency.

By J. A. PHIFER,
Deputy Disbursing Agent.

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# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE PONCA INDIAN TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified September 20, 1950

Whereas, the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a Constitution and By-laws approved by William E. Warne, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, and ratified by the Indians of said tribe on September 20, 1950, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said tribe, by resolution of the Ponca Business Committee duly authoriaed, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said tribe, subject to ratification by vote of the members of the tribe;

Now, therefore, I, William E. Warne, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this Charter of Incorporation to the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Ponca Indian Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per cent of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma and its members.

(b) To advance the standard of living of the tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of land or interests in land, the preservation of existing land holdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the tribe and the individual members thereof.

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership, and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said tribe. The membership, the officers, and the organization of the incorporated tribe shall be as provided in the said Constitution and By-laws.

3. Corporate Powers. The Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and Laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the tribe, and to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and to be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers, agents, and other members as the business of the tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To negotiate and to enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and section 6 of the act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), or other applicable legislation, or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the tribe and to use such funds directly for tribal enterprises or to loan such funds to individual members or association of members of the tribe.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a national bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Ponca Indian Tribe.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or federal projects for the benefit of the tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Ponca Indian Tribe.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of tribal meetings and the Ponca Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Ponca Indian Tribe.

(q) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal.

(r) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(s) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(t) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(u) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of the Government.

(v) To exercise such further powers not inconsistent with law as may be necessary to the conduct of corporate business.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than 10 years, except that oil, gas, or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit, or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit, or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 6 of the act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income, other than assignments to the United States, shall be made for more than 5 years in advance.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until 10 years from the date of ratification of this Charter or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representatives:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the tribe of more than a total sum of $3,000 or of more than $1,200 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $1,000.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the tribe in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within 10 years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of approval established by section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Ponca Business Committee. At or before the expiration of this 10-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Ponca Business Committee.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution and By-laws or Charter of the said tribe. No property rights or claims of the Ponca Indian Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individual, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by four affirmative votes of the Ponca Business Committee or by a petition signed by at least 25 percent of the adult members of the tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to referendum vote of all adult members of the tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority of those voting: Provided, That at least 30 percent of the adult members participate in the election.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma: Provided, That at least 30 percent of the eligible voters shall vote, and provided the tribe has ratified a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Secretary of the Interior. The ratification of the Charter shall be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Western Oklahoma Consolidated Indian Agency and by the chairman and secretary-treasurer of the tribe.

Submitted by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

WILLIAM E. WARNE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Washington, D. C., May 23, 1950.

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I, William E. Warne, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Charter of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Charter all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Charter and the Constitution and By-laws, approved by me on May 23, 1950, and duly ratified by the tribe on September 20, 1950, are declared inapplicable to the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, and the Charter if, and when, ratified by the tribe.

Approval recommended: January 18, 1950.

JOHN H. PROVINSE,
Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

WILLIAM E. WARNE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., May 23, 1950.

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on May 23, 1950, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the tribe, and was on September 20, 1950, duly ratified by a vote of 132 for, and 25 against, in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

Ponca Tribal Election Board.
PARRISH WILLIAMS,
Judge.
DANA A. KNIGHT,
Clerk.
MITCHELL ROY,
Registrar.
JOHN L. JOHNSON,
Pawnee Subagency.

WM. WADE HEAD,
General Superintendent,
Western Oklahoma Consolidated Agency.

43

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PONCA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified September 20, 1950

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure to ourselves and our descendants the rights, powers, and privileges offered by the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do establish this organization and adopt the following Constitution and Bylaws pursuant to that act.

## ARTICLE I -- NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II -- MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood who were enrolled or were entitled to be enrolled on the official census roll of the Ponca Tribe as of January 1, 1940, provided that within five years after the adoption of this Constitution and Bylaws the said roll may be corrected by the Business Committee of the Ponca Tribe, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) All children of one-fourth or more Ponca Indian blood born since the date of said roll, one of whose parents is a member of the Ponca Indian Tribe.

SEC. 2. The Business Committee shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, governing future membership including adoptions and loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III -- GOVERNING BODY

SECTION 1. The governing body of the Ponca Tribe of Indians shall be a Business Committee consisting of seven members elected by vote of the tribal membership. The term of office of each committeeman shall be two years from the date of installation in office except as provided for in Section 1 (a) of Article IV.

SEC. 2. In case their successors shall not have been duly elected and certified, the term of office of the committeemen shall be extended until successors shall have been duly elected and certified.

SEC. 3. The Business Committee so organized shall elect from within its own membership (1) a chairman, (2) a vice chairman, and from within or without, (3) a secretary-treasurer, and may appoint or employ such other officers and committees as may be deemed necessary.

## ARTICLE IV — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. The first election of the Business Committee hereunder shall be called, held, and supervised by the present Business Committee within 60 days after ratification of this Constitution and Bylaws.

(a) In the first election the four candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall hold office for two years. The three candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall hold office for one year. Thereafter, committeemen shall be elected for a term of two years.

SEC. 2. All members of the Ponca Tribe of Indians twenty-one years of age or over shall be eligible to vote.

SEC. 3. The time and place of voting shall be designated by the Business Committee, or if the Business Committee shall fail to make such designation, the time and place shall be the same as in the last prior election.

SEC. 4. All tribal elections shall be by secret ballot to be held in accordance with rules and regulations laid down by the Business Committee or by an Election Board appointed by the Business Committee.

SEC. 5. The Business Committee or an Election Board appointed by the Committee shall certify to the election of the members of the Committee within five days after the election has been held.

## ARTICLE V -- VACANCIES AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

SECTION 1. If a committeeman or officer shall die, resign, be removed or recalled from office, or shall be found guilty by any Indian, State or Federal Court of a felony or misdemeanor involving dishonesty or of accepting a bribe, or moves away from the locality of the Ponca jurisdiction, or fails to attend meetings for a period of six months in succession, the position shall be deemed vacant and the committee shall call an election to fill the unexpired term.

SEC. 2. The Business Committee by four affirmative votes may expel any committeemen for neglect of duty or gross misconduct in relation to his official duties. Before any vote for expulsion is taken the accused shall be given a written statement of the charges against him at least five days before the meeting before which he is to appear and must be given an adequate opportunity to answer any and all charges at such Business Committee meeting. The decision of the Business Committee shall be final.

SEC. 3. Upon receipt of a petition signed by at least one-third of the eligible voters of the Ponca Tribe of Indians calling for the recall of any member of the Business Committee, it shall be the duty of the Business Committee to call a special election to consider the recall of the member or members of the Business Committee named in such petition. If a majority of those entitled to vote shall favor the recall of a member of a Business Committee and if at least twenty-five percent of those entitled to vote shall actually vote in such election, the office shall be declared vacant and the Business Committee shall call an election to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

## ARTICLE VI -- MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the first Tuesday of February, May, and November, unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the chairman at his discretion and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. Annual meetings of the tribal membership shall be held on the second Tuesday in May for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the tribe.

SEC. 4. Special meetings of the tribe may be called at the discretion of the chairman and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of twenty-five members of the tribe, provided, that at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 5. The principal object of a special tribal meeting must be stated in the notice and may include the words "and for the transaction of any other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the notice.

## ARTICLE VII -- BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly, and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way be construed to alter, abridge, or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the Ponca Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Ponca Tribe shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws without the consent of such individual member of the Tribe.

## ARTICLE VIII -- POWERS OF THE PONCA BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The powers to be exercised by the Ponca Business Committee shall be set forth in a Corporate Charter to be issued by the Secretary of the Interior.

## ARTICLE IX -- AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached Bylaws may be proposed by four affirmative votes of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by at least twenty-five percent of the adult members of the tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the tribe and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote of the adult members of the tribe voting in person, provided that at least thirty percent of the qualified members participate in the election.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE PONCA TRIBE OF INDIANS

## ARTICLE I -- DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chairman.--The chairman shall preside at all meetings of the tribe and of the Business Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the tribe and of the Business Committee and shall perform all duties pertaining to the office of chairman.

SEC. 2. Vice Chairman.--In the absence or incapacity of the chairman, the vice chairman shall perform the duties of that office. In the case of a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice chairman shall succeed at once to the office of chairman until the next special or regular election for the office of chairman, when the Business Committee shall organize itself in accordance with Article III, Section 3, of the Constitution.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.--The secretary-treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all proceedings and official records of the tribe and of the Business Committee. He shall make out the order of business for the chairman, shall notify all committees of their appointments and shall have custody of the records and all tribal papers. All official records of the secretary-treasurer shall be available for inspection in the presence of the secretary-treasurer to any member of the tribe. He shall keep a correct list of all the members of the tribe, shall certify all accounts or orders of the tribe and of the Business Committee, and in the absence of the chairman and vice chairman shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the regular meeting of the Business Committee and at the annual meeting of the members of the tribe. At the expiration of his term of office he shall turn over the records, papers, and tribal funds in his possession to his successor. He shall issue notices of meetings and conduct general correspondence as directed by the tribe or by the Business Committee. He shall receive all monies of the tribe and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The secretary-treasurer shall keep all tribal monies entrusted to his care in a special account and shall disburse such funds only upon written request of the Ponca Business Committee. Disbursements shall be by check. At any time that such an account shall amount to more than $50.00 he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal monies.

## ARTICLE II -- QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Any person to be eligible for membership on the Business Committee must be twenty-one years of age or older and an enrolled member of one-fourth or more Ponca Indian blood. At the time of his election he shall be an actual resident of the territory known as the old Ponca jurisdiction.

## ARTICLE III -- PLACE OF MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the tribe or of the Business Committee shall be held at the Ponca subagency unless some other point is designated in the call or notice.

A47

## ARTICLE IV -- QUORUM

SECTION 1. Four members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting. Each member of the Business Committee shall sign his name in his own handwriting signifying his presence at each meeting.

SEC. 2. Fifty adult members of the Ponca Tribe shall constitute a quorum at tribal meetings to transact business.

## ARTICLE V -- ADOPTION

This Constitution and Bylaws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under rules and regulations prescribed by him pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), provided that at least thirty percent of the eligible voters vote in such election.

I, William E. Warne, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

WILLIAM E. WARNE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 23, 1950.

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved May 23, 1950, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and Bylaws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and on September 20, 1950, duly adopted by a vote of 129 for, and 24 against, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), and the regulations of the Secretary of the Interior, asmodified in a memorandum to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs dated April 6, 1951.

PONCA TRIBAL ELECTION BOARD,

PARRISH WILLIAMS,
Judge.
DANA A. KNIGHT,
Clerk.
MITCHELL ROY,
Registrar.
JOHN L. JOHNSON,
District Agent,
Pawnee Subagency.

WM. WADE HEAD,
General Superintendent,
Western Oklahoma Consolidated Agency.

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48

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF

## THE PONCA TRIBE OF INDIANS

### AMENDMENT I.

Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution, Membership of Tribe, shall be amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. The membership of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood who were enrolled or were entitled to be enrolled on the official census roll of the Ponca Tribe as of January 1, 1940, provided that the said roll may be corrected by the Business Committee of the Ponca Tribe, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) All children of one-fourth or more Ponca Indian blood born since the date of said roll, one of whose parents is a member of the Ponca Indian Tribe.

(c) No person who has the blood of the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma and who also has the blood of another Indian tribe, and who has received any payments of money or who has received an allotment of land by virtue of having been enrolled with such tribe, shall be eligible for membership with the Ponca Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

### APPROVAL

I, Harry R. Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended:

ROBERT L. BENNETT
Commissioner of Indians Affairs.

HARRY R. ANDERSON
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 24, 1967. [SEAL]

### CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved on July 11, 1967, by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the attached Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Ponca Tribe, and on August 26, 1967, was ratified by a vote of 209 for, and 26 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THURMAN RHODD, Chairman
Ponca Business Committee

S. W. SMITH
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT II.

Article VI, Section 3 of the Constitution, Meetings, shall be amended to read as follows:

SEC. 3. Annual meetings of the tribal membership shall be held on the third Saturday in November for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the tribe.

## APPROVAL

I, Harry R. Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended:

ROBERT L. BENNETT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HARRY R. ANDERSON
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 24, 1967.

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved July 11, 1967, by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the attached Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Ponca Tribe, and on August 26, 1967, was ratified by a vote of 223 for, and 12 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THURMAN RHODD, Chairman
Ponca Business Committee.

S. W. SMITH,
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT III.

Article IX of the Constitution, Amendments, shall be amended to read as follows:

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached Bylaws may be proposed by four (4) affirmative votes of the Business Committee or by petition signed by at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the adult members of the tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

## APPROVAL

I, Harry R. Anderson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended:

ROBERT L. BENNETT
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HARRY R. ANDERSON
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 24, 1967.

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved July 11, 1967, by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the attached Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Ponca Tribe, and on August 26, 1967, was ratified by a vote of 211 for, and 24 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THURMAN RHODD, Chairman
Ponca Business Committee

S. W. SMITH
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE CITIZEN BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified December 12, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure to ourselves and our decendants the rights, powers and privileges offered by the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do establish this organization and adopt the following constitution and by-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood who were bona fide members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians and who were enrolled or were entitled to be enrolled on the official census roll of the Band as of January 1, 1937.

(b) All children of Indian blood born since the date of said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(c) Any child of Indian blood born of a marriage between a member of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians and a nonmember thereof who chooses to affiliate with the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Council of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians residing in Oklahoma, 21 years of age and older.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Tribe shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, and two Councilmen. The term of office of these officers shall be for two years: Provided, That the present officers shall serve till the last Thursday in June 1939, or until their successors are elected and installed.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. This committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future: Provided, That acts of the said Business Committee relating to claims or rights growing out of treaties between the United States and the Tribe shall not be effective unless authorized or approved by the Council.

SEC. 2. There shall be a Grievance Committee which shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VI — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the last Thursday of June for the purpose of receiving reports, and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chairman, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of twenty-five members of the Council: Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of a special council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. The regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the last Thursday in February, May, August, and November unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chairman at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Regular elections of officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be held by the Council at its regular annual meeting on the last Thursday in June 1939, and on the last Thursday in June of each second year thereafter, under rules and regulations prescribed by the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. To be eligible for election, notice of candidacy for an elective office must be filed with the Secretary of the Council at least ten days prior to election. Such notice shall be valid if filed by a candidate himself or upon the petition of fifteen members of the Council. Where no such notices are filed, nominations may be made from the floor.

## ARTICLE VIII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term at any special or regular meeting of the Council.

## ARTICLE IX — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct in office of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing call a special meeting of the Council to act upon such complaints. The Council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE X — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way be construed to alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by thirty per cent of the adult members of the Council, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the Council and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chairman.—The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Business Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of chairman.

SEC. 2. Vice-Chairman.--In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of that office. In the case of vacancy, the Vice-Chairman shall succeed at once to the office of Chairman until the next special or regular election for the office of Chairman.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the Chairman, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council: Provided, That all certified records shall remain on file in the office of the Superintendent of the Shawnee Indian Agency: And provided further, That all records and papers shall be open to inspection, in the presence of the Secretary-Treasurer, by any member of the Council. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all Tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of Tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Business Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma. At the time of his election, he shall be an actual resident of the territory known as the Shawnee Indian Agency jurisdiction in Oklahoma. Any person holding an elective office removing from the Shawnee Indian Agency jurisdiction shall automatically lose office.

## ARTICLE III — PLACE OF MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee shall be held at the Shawnee Indian Agency unless some other point under the Shawnee Indian Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Fifty members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Four members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, provided that at least 20% of the eligible voters vote in such election.

I, Harry Slattery, the Acting Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the Tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Constitution all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, are declared inapplicable to the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said constitution and by-laws.

Approval recommended October 5, 1938.

F. H. DAIKER,
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HARRY SLATTERY,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 17, 1938.

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved October 17, 1938 by the Acting Secretary of the Interior, the attached constitution and by-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma and was on December 12, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 351 for, and 2 against, in an election in which over 20 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE CITIZEN POTAWATOMI BUSINESS COMMITTEE,

By LOUIS J. BRANT, Chairman.
ALICE WARDCHOW, Secretary.
O. D. LEWIS.

A. C. HECTOR,
Superintendent, Shawnee Indian Agency.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE CITIZEN BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

AMENDMENT NO. 1.

Article VIII, Vacancies, shall be amended to read as follows:

> "Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term at any special or regular meeting of the Business Committee."

AMENDMENT NO. 2.

Article IV, Section 2 of the By-Laws shall be amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting."

AMENDMENT NO. 3.

Article III, Membership of Council, shall be amended to read as follows:

"The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Council of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma 21 years of age or older."

AMENDMENT NO. 4.

Article II, Membership of Tribe, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. The membership of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood who were bona fide members of the Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indians of Oklahoma and who were enrolled or were entitled to be enrolled on the official census roll of the Band as of January 1, 1937.

(b) Each child of Indian blood born since the date of said roll and prior to the effective date of this Amendment, each of whose parents is or was a member of the Band. (Effective date 6-29-61).

(c) Each child of Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indian blood born prior to the effective date of this Amendment of a marriage between a member of the Band and any other person.

(d) Each child who is of one-eighth or more Citizen Band of Potawatomi Indian blood born on or after the effective date of this Amendment, one or both of whose parents are members of the Band.

"SEC. 2. As used in Section 1, the term "a member of the Band" means a member of the Band at the time of the child's birth, or, in the case of a posthumous child, if membership rights are claimed through the deceased parent, the parent was a member of the Band at the time of death.

"SEC. 3. The burden of proof as to quantum of Citizen Band of Potawatomi blood will be on the claimant for enrollment in each case.

"SEC. 4. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representative, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership."

Amendments 1 and 2 were approved by the Secretary of the Interior on September 27, 1956, and ratified by the Potawatomi Council on October 27, 1956.

Amendments 3 and 4 were approved by the Secretary of the Interior on April 24, 1961, and ratified by the Potawatomi Council on June 29, 1961.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PRAIRIE BAND OF POTAWATOMI INDIANS

## AMENDMENT I.

SECTION 1. The provisions of the so-called "Baldwin Constitution" and all amendments thereto are hereby amended as follows:

SEC. 2. (a) A Business Committee is hereby established to consist of seven committeemen who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the tribe present at a meeting of the members thereof convened for that purpose by secret ballot and who shall serve for a term of two years.

(b) Five members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum for the official transaction of tribal business.

(c) The "General Council" as referred to hereinafter, shall consist of all members of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians who are 21 years of age or older. A quorum of the General Council necessary to conduct tribal business shall be not less than twenty-five (25) adult members. All action of the General Council shall be determined by a majority vote of the eligible voters present, provided a quorum is present.

SEC. 3. (a) The membership of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians shall consist of all living original Prairie Band allottees and the living descendants by blood of all original Prairie Band allottees, except the following persons:

(1) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who elect to be enrolled with another tribe.

(2) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who have received any payments in land or money by virtue of having been enrolled with some other tribe.

(b) To be a qualified voter of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe and to be a candidate for membership on the Business Committee a person must be 21 years of age or over and be an enrolled member of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians. It is expressly intended that residence on or off the reservation will have no bearing on the rights of any member of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe insofar as voting privileges and eligibility to serve on the Business Committee are concerned.

SEC. 4. (a) Within 60 days after the approval of this resolution the present Business Committee shall call, hold, and supervise an election for members of the Business Committee. The four persons receiving the highest number of votes shall serve until their successors are elected at the second annual election and the three receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve until their successors are elected at the first annual election which shall be held on the first Saturday in September following the approval of this resolution. After this first election called by the Business Committee, the committee members elected at each annual election shall serve for two years. The date and place of each election shall be designated by the Business Committee who shall give 30 days public notice prior to any election held.

(b) At each election there shall be nominated from the floor at least three more candidates than there are positions to fill. Election shall be by secret ballot, a plurality vote being necessary to elect. After each election the Committee shall meet and organize for business by electing from its own number a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary-Treasurer and by appointing from the members of the tribe such other officials, committees, or boards as may be deemed necessary.

(c) If the Tribal Business Committee shall fail to give appropriate notice of an election or in case a regular election has not been held as provided for in Section 4(a) of this resolution, the officer in charge of the Potawatomi Area Field Office shall call such an election and shall give thirty (30) days' notice, setting forth the time and place of such election.

SEC. 5. (a) Upon a petition signed by 30 percent of the qualified voters of the tribe stating a complaint against a member of the Business Committee and asking for his recall, the Business Committee shall call a meeting of the tribe to vote on whether or not the Committeeman shall be recalled. At such meeting the accused Committeeman shall be given an opportunity to speak in his own defense. If such Committeeman is recalled, the Tribal Business Committee shall proceed to appoint a member of the tribe to fill the unexpired term.

(b) The Business Committee may by a vote of five of its members remove a Committman for neglect of duty or misconduct in office, after giving such Committeeman notice of the charge and an opportunity to be heard.

(c) Vacancies in the Business Committee caused by removal, death, or resignation may be filled by the Tribal Business Committee by appointment of a member of the tribe to serve as Committeeman for the unexpired term.

SEC. 6. The Tribal Business Committee is hereby empowered to appoint subordinate committees and representatives; to transact business of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe, including the management or disposition of tribal property except such property over which the Secretary of the Interior has trust responsibility which cannot be disposed of without his consent and the expenditure of tribal funds, except such funds as may be due members of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe as a result of any existing favorable claims settlement and any that may be settled in the future; and such additional business of the tribe as the General Council may see fit to delegate to the Business Committee from time to time by appropriate resolution; provided, however, that any ordinances passed by the Business Committee governing membership, future membership or the loss of membership shall be subject to the approval of the General Council and review by the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 7. Any resolution or ordinance which by the terms of this resolution, is subject to review by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be presented to the officer in charge of the Potawatomi Area Field Office who shall, within ten days thereafter, approve or disapprove the same. If the officer in charge shall approve any ordinance or resolution, it shall thereupon become effective, but the officer in charge shall transmit a copy of the same, bearing his endorsement, to the Secretary of the Interior, who may within 90 days from the date of enactment, annul the said ordinance or resolution for any cause, by notifying the Business Committee of such decision. If the officer in charge shall refuse to approve any ordinance or resolution submitted to him, within ten days after its enactment, he shall advise the Business Committee of his reasons therefor. If these reasons appear to the Business Committee insufficient, it may, by a majority vote, refer the ordinance or resolution to the Secretary of the Interior who may approve the same in writing, whereupon the said ordinance or resolution shall become effective.

SEC. 8. Upon petition by 30 percent of the qualified voters of the tribe protesting any action of the Business Committee, the Business Committee shall call a special meeting of the tribe to vote on whether the action of the Committee shall be vetoed or upheld. The action of the tribe shall be final. If the Business Committee fails to call such a meeting within 30 days, the officer in charge of the Potawatomi Area Field Office shall call such a meeting.

SEC. 9. The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the Committee and of the General Council and shall perform the usual duties of a Chairman and exercise any authority delegated to him by the Committee.

SEC. 10. The Vice-Chairman shall assist the Chairman when called upon to do so and in the absence of the Chairman he shall preside. When so presiding, he shall have all the rights, privileges and duties as well as the responsibilities of the Chairman.

SEC. 11. The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record all proceedings of all meetings and shall forward copies of the minutes of all meetings to the office in charge of the Potawatomi Area Field Office. He shall be responsible for the prompt and efficient handling of all correspondence pertaining to the business of the Committee. He shall make out the order of business for the Chairman; shall notify all committees of their appointments; shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Committee which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any members of the Committee or tribal members desiring to review them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Committee, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Committee and in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, shall call the meetings to order until a chairman pro-tempore is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office, records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the General Council and the Tribal Business Committee. He shall keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements of all monies belonging to the tribe which may come into his hands and make appropriate reports to the Business Committee and to the General Council at its annual meeting. The accounts and records of the Business Committee and the General Council shall be open at all times for inspection and audit by the Commissioner of Indians Affairs or his authorized representative. Any tribal funds entrusted to the care of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be kept in a special account and all disbursements therefrom shall be made by check. He shall file a surety bond satisfactory to the Tribal Business Committee and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs or his authorized representative. The cost of such bond may be paid from tribal funds.

SEC. 12. Meetings of the General Council may be called at the discretion of the Chairman, and shall be called by him at the request in writing of the majority of the Tribal Business Committee, or by a written request of thirty percent of the members of the General Council.

SEC. 13. Meetings of the Tribal Business Committee shall be left to the discretion of the Chairman who may call a meeting of the Business Committee at any time there is business to transact, and he must call a meeting upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee.

61

SEC. 14. All meetings of the General Council and of the Tribal Business Committee shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

SEC. 15. This resolution may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe voting at an election called for that purpose by the Chairman of the Tribal Business Committee. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Tribal Business Committee to call such an election at the request of a majority of the Tribal Business Committee, or upon presentation of a petition signed by at least thirty percent of the qualified voters, members of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe; provided that not less than thirty days' notice of such meeting and proposed amendment shall be given to the members of the tribe directly by mail, if feasible, and by appropriate publicity throughout the communities in which the tribal members reside.

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## ADOPTION

The attached Amendment I to the Baldwin Constitution was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi Tribe, and was on October 8, 1960, ratified by a vote of 254 for, and 26 against.

## APPROVAL

I, Glenn L. Emmons, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior, do hereby approve the attached Amendment I to the Baldwin Constitution and designate the Amendment the Constitution and Bylaws of the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Indians.

GLENN L. EMMONS

January 17, 1961

Washington, D.C.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SAC AND FOX TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

## PREAMBLE

We, the Sac and Fox Indians of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure to ourselves and our descendants, the rights, powers and privileges offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, approved June 26, 1936, do establish this organization and adopt the following constitution and by-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be known as "the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma".

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

The membership of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

SECTION 1. All persons enrolled on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

SEC. 2. All children born since the date of said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

SEC. 3. Any child who is of Sac and Fox Indian blood and who is born of a marriage between a member of the Tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council.

SEC. 4. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the review of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Sac and Fox Council. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, both males and females twenty-one years of age and older. All actions of the Council shall be determined by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Tribe shall be the Principal Chief, Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer and two Councilmen. The term of office shall be for two years, except as provided in Section 1 of Article VII of this Constitution.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. This Committee shall have power to appoint

63

subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future: Provided, That acts of the said Business Committee relating to claims or rights growing out of treaties between the United States and the Tribe shall not be effective unless authorized or approved by the Sac and Fox Council.

SEC. 2. Grievance Committee.—This Committee shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the membership of the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VI — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Within sixty days after the adoption of this Constitution and By-laws, an election of officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be held under rules and regulations prescribed by the Superintendent of the Shawnee Indian Agency. The officers and members of the Grievance Committee elected at this election shall serve till the next regular election provided for in Section 2 of this Article, or until their successors are elected and installed.

SEC. 2. Regular elections of officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be held on the first Thursday in August, 1939, and on the first Thursday in August of each second year thereafter, under rules and regulations prescribed by the Business Committee: Provided, That voting shall be by the membership of the Council in person at polling places designated by the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. To be eligible for election, notice of candidacy for an elective office must be filed with the Secretary-Treasurer at least twenty days prior to election. Such notice shall be valid if filed by a candidate himself or upon the petition of ten members of the Council. No person shall be a candidate for more than one office at any one election.

## ARTICLE VII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term by appointment of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Council to act upon such complaints.

The Council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office.

## ARTICLE IX — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE X — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by thirty per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The Principal Chief shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Business Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Principal Chief.

SEC. 2. Second Chief.—In the absence of the Principal Chief, the Second Chief shall perform the duties of that office.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the Principal Chief, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the Principal Chief and Second Chief, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all Tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of Tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Business Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma. At the time of his election, he shall be an actual resident of the State of Oklahoma. Any person holding an elective office removing from the State of Oklahoma shall automatically lose office.

## ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the last Thursday of August for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Principal Chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of fifty members of the Tribe: Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of a special Council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added no other business may be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. Unless otherwise provided by resolution, the regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the first Thursday of February, June, September, and December.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Principal Chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 6. Unless some other point under the Shawnee Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Council shall be held at the Sac and Fox Agency grounds, and meetings of the Business Committee shall be held at the Shawnee Indian Agency.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. One hundred members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under the rules and regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
October 27, 1937.

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved October 27, 1937 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on December 7, 1937 duly ratified by a vote of 202 for, and 120 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

SAC & FOX ELECTION BOARD,

PAULINE LEWIS, Member.
DICKSON DUNCAN, Member.
F. E. PERKINS,
Superintendent, Shawnee Agency.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SAC AND FOX TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

AMENDMENT I [Ratified October 16, 1954, but superseded by Amendment IV. Approved October 25, 1962.]

Article II of the tribal constitution of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall be amended as follows:

SECTION 1. The membership of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following:

(a) All enrolled persons whose names appear on the official census roll of the tribe as of January 1, 1937, and who were living on that date.

(b) Each child born since the date of said roll and prior to the effective date of Amendment I, each of whose parents was a member of the tribe.

(c) Each child of Sac and Fox Indian blood born prior to the effective date of Amendment I of a marriage between a member of the tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council.

(d) Each child who is of one-fourth or more Sac and Fox Indian blood born on or after the effective date of Amendment I, each of whose parents is a member of the tribe.

(e) Each child of one-fourth or more Sac and Fox Indian blood who on or after the effective date of Amendment I is born of a marriage between a member of the tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council.

SEC. 2. As used in Section 1, the term "a member of the tribe" means a member of the tribe at the time of the child's birth, or, in the case of a posthumous child of a deceased parent, a member of the tribe at the time of such parent's death.

SEC. 3. The burden of proof as to quantum of Sac and Fox blood will be on the claimant for enrollment in each case.

SEC. 4. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## APPROVAL

I, Fred G. Aandahl, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: July 26, 1954

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

FRED G. AANDAHL
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

[SEAL]

Washington, D.C.
August 4, 1954

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved August 4, 1954, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment I to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, and on October 16, 1954, was ratified by a vote of 130 for, and 50 against, in an election in which at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

EMERY FOSTER
Chairman, Sac and Fox Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Superintendent, Southern Plains Agency.

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## AMENDMENT II

Article III, Section 1 of the Bylaws shall be amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of the Council shall be held on the last Saturday of August, or upon 20 days' notice the annual meeting of the Council may be held at such other time as the Sac and Fox Business Committee may by resolution designate.

## APPROVAL

I, Wesley A. D'Ewart, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: February 3, 1956

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

WESLEY A. D'EWART
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D. C.
June 22, 1956

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved June 22, 1956, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, and on September 1, 1956, was ratified by a vote of 66 for, and 2 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

EMERY FOSTER
Principal Chief, Sac and Fox
Business Committee

WILL J. PITNER
Area Director, Anadarko Area Office

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## AMENDMENT III

Article IV, Section 1 of the Bylaws shall be amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. Sixty members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## APPROVAL

I, Wesley A. D'Ewart, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: February 3, 1956

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

WESLEY A. D'EWART
Assistant Secretary of the Interior
[SEAL]

Washington, D.C.
June 22, 1956

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved June 22, 1956, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, and on September 1, 1956, was ratified by a vote of 50 for, and 11 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

EMERY FOSTER
Principal Chief, Sac and Fox
Business Committee

WILL J. PITNER
Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

***

## AMENDMENT IV

Article II, Membership of the Tribe, shall be amended in its entirety to read as follows:

SECTION 1. The membership of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following:

(a) All enrolled persons whose names appear on the official census roll of the tribe as of January 1, 1937, and who were living on that date.

(b) Each child born since the date of said roll and prior to the effective date of Amendment I, each of whose parents was a member of the tribe.

(c) Each child of Sac and Fox Indian blood born prior to the effective date of Amendment I of a marriage between a member of the tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council.

(d) Each child who is of one-fourth or more Sac and Fox of Oklahoma Indian blood born on or after the effective date of Amendment I, each of whose parents is a member of the tribe.

(e) Persons born after the date of October 16, 1954, who possess 1/4 or more of Sac and Fox of Oklahoma Indian blood, and at least one of whose parents is a member of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma, provided an application is submitted in writing to the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma and provided that such persons has not been enrolled with another tribe.

(f) Persons making application for membership under Section 1(c) above shall be entitled to file application two times only, and if rejected both times, they shall not be entitled to further consideration for membership with the Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma.

## APPROVAL

I, John A. Carver, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49

Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment IV to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 11, 1961

PHILLEO NASH
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

JOHN A. CARVER, JR.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
January 5, 1962

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved January 5, 1962, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment IV to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, and on August 25, 1962, was ratified by a vote of 104 for, and 11 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

REX WHISTLER
Principal Chief, Sac and Fox
Business Committee

WILL J. PITNER
Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

***

## AMENDMENT V

Article III, Section 4 of the Bylaws shall be amended to read as follows:

SEC. 4. The regular meeting of the Business Committee shall be held in the months of February, July, September and December of each year with the time and place to be designated by the Business Committee which will announce and give public notice of the meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

## APPROVAL

I, John A. Carver, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the foregoing Amendment V to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 11, 1961

PHILLEO NASH
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

JOHN A. CARVER, JR.
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
January 5, 1962

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order approved January 5, 1962, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment V to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sac and Fox Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Sac and Fox Tribe, and on August 25, 1962, was ratified by a vote of 104 for, and 11 against, in an election called for that purpose in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1957).

REX WHISTLER
Principal Chief, Sac and Fox
Business Committee

WILL J. PITNER
Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

*****

# REVISED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE SEMINOLE TRIBE OR NATION OF OKLAHOMA

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name shall be: General Council of the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — OBJECT

The object of this Council shall be to unite and associate together all the competent ideas that we may secure concerted action in what so ever we may regard as beneficial to our united interests.

To unite in one organization, regardless of religion, or political affiliation.

One of the immediate objectives of this Council shall be the encouraging of friendly and fraternal co-operation of the members, one toward toward another and each toward all. And to work in harmony with the Department of Interior and all branches of the government to our mutual benefit.

At all time this General Council shall be pledged to utilize the conference room in the accomplishment to improve conditions for the Seminole Indians of Oklahoma.

To protect the interest of the Tribe and individuals wherever found.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

All Seminole Indians by blood are eligible for membership, including any Indian whose parents are Indians but not the same Tribe, provided one of which parent is a Seminole by blood; entitles the child to be a member of the General Council. Members should be 21 years of age or over.

## ARTICLE IV

The installation ceremony may be performed by the retiring Chief, Acting Chief, or any one appointed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Council present.

All officers upon being installed, shall take the following oath of office: "I, ________________, do solemnly swear that I will support, obey, and defend the Constitution of the United States; of the State of Oklahoma; and Constitution and By-Laws of the General Council, and will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity; that I have not paid or contributed, either directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing, to procure my nomination or appointment; that I have not knowingly violated any law of the Council, or procured it to be done by others in my behalf; that I will not, knowingly, receive directly or indirectly, any money or other valuable thing, for the performance or non-performance of any act or duty pertaining to my office during my term of office."

## ARTICLE V

Chief. The Chief's duties during the meeting shall be: To function as Supreme Chairman, with authority above chairman in his discretion. To sign all official documents affecting the Tribe when so directed by the Council or at his discretion.

The Second Chief performs all the duties pertaining to the Office of the Chief during his absence or until his successor is duly elected and installed.

Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings, enforce order and strict observance of the Constitution and By-Laws, attest all warrents drawn on the Funds by the Treasurer and authorized by the Council. Appoint all special Committees, subject to approval of majority of the Council members present. Fill all vacancies in Office, unless otherwise provided for; direct Secretary to call special meetings when he deems necessary. Chairman shall have the casting vote in case of an equal division.

Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all money and securities of this Council, giving official receipts. And paying bills or debts by check signed by the Chief, Chairman and Treasurer of this Council. His books are to be kept up-to-date and held in readiness for inspection by the General Council. The Financial Secretary shall be under bond for One Thousand ($1,000.00) Dollars or for any amount to cover the full value of all money, securities and all other property of the Council. The Council to pay the cost of any such bond.

Secretary. The Secretary shall call the roll of Officers, and its Council Members, and keep a correct record of all transactions of each meeting; read the minutes of all meetings. Correspondence. This Secretary shall hold his book in readiness for inspection at all times.

Executive Committee. The duties of the Executive Committee shall supervise the securities and the funds of this Council. At tne end of each six months or at any time deemed necessary shall also keep an inventory of all property belonging to this Council. They shall investigate all bills payable and sign approval or disapproval. And shall have authority to investigate all matters pertaining to the Tribe, and to make a report to the General Council of their findings.

### ROLL CALL

The Secretary shall call roll at the opening of the meeting, to determine the quorum status. The Secretary shall call roll at the close of the Council Meeting to determine those present and eligible to receive pay.

### ABSENTEE

If Council Member is absent two (2) consecutive regular meetings, without good cause show, the Chief shall declare a vacancy to exist and direct the Band that the absentee represents to hold an immediate election to fill such vacancy.

### CHIEF AND SECOND CHIEF

1. That there be and is hereby created the Office of Chief and Second Chief of the Seminole Nation; that there shall be one Principal Chief and one Second Chief of the Seminole Nation.

2. Be it further enacted that the Principal and the Second Chief shall both be eligible for membership to the General Council.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1. Be it further enacted that there shall be one member of each of the smaller bands in the Seminole Nation, selected by the Band and that these persons so selected shall meet on the first Wednesday of April at the Council house, and nominate delegates for the office of Principal and Second Chief.

2. Be it further enacted that there shall be two persons nominated for the office of Principal Chief.

3. Be it further enacted that there shall be two persons nominated for the office of Second Chief of the Seminole Nation and at its conclusion the persons aforementioned representing these smaller bands shall thereupon adjourn.

## ELECTIONS

1. Be it further enacted that on the first Tuesday of the month of June following the nomination at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon a general election shall be held by the Citizens of the said Seminole Nation for the election of the Principal Chief.

2. Be it further enacted that every citizen of the Seminole Nation which is of legal age shall or may participate in said election by standing on their feet and being counted as to whom their choice for Principal and Second Chief shall be.

3. Be it further enacted that if the successful candidate should be elected by one vote over his opponent he shall be deemed legally elected according to the laws of the Said Nation.

4. Be it further enacted that in case each candidate receives an equal number of votes then in that event that the General Council newly elected shall on the first Monday in July following the June election, hold an election, and determine by vote who the Principal Chief shall be.

5. Be it further enacted that before the election shall begin the General Council shall select three persons whose duty it shall be to check credentials and count the votes.

6. Be it further enacted that the persons duly elected at said election to fill the office of Principal and Second Chief shall assume the authority and be duly qualified on the first day of July, following the June election.

7. Be it further enacted that the persons so elected as Principal and Second Chief shall hold and continue in office for a period of four years, until the last day of June after their election.

8. Be it further enacted that the term of offices of the Chiefs shall be for a period of four years, unless otherwise disposed of by law. The election years shall be concurrent with the election years of the U. S. President.

9. Be it further enacted that the Chiefs shall continue to hold office after they

are duly elected and qualified for the period aforementioned, and shall continue to hold office until their successors or successor is duly elected and qualified.

10. Be it further enacted that in the case of death or removal from office of one or other of the Chiefs, it shall be the duty of the General Council to fill the vacancy caused.

11. Be it further enacted that the persons so elected to fill the said vacancy shall continue in office until the expiration of the time for which the Chief or Chiefs were elected whose unexpired time the said party or parties filled. Whereupon the citizens of the Seminole Nation shall proceed to elect the Chiefs as heretofore stated.

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Be it further enacted that on the third Tuesday in June after the election of the Chief, the Band Chief and two Council Members shall be selected by each Band and that said Band Chief and two Council Members shall serve as Members of the General Council for a term of 4 years. Provided that each Band may hold its own Band election and select representatives whenever it becomes necessary.

## AMENDMENTS

Any and all amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the General Council of the Seminole Tribe of Oklahoma.

## OFFICIAL MEETING DATES

The official meeting dates for this Council shall be the third Tuesday in January, April, July and October of each calendar year, provided that a special meeting may be called at any time by the Chief and/or Chairman; or by two-thirds demand by the Members of the General Council.

## PLACE OF MEETING

The official meeting place shall be at the Tribal Council House or as otherwise designated by the Proper Officers calling the meeting.

GEORGE HARJO
L. M. FIFE
BEN WALKER
JUNE FACTOR
WILLIAM WRIGHT
JEFFIE BROWN
BILLIE PALMER.

***

# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE
# SENECA-CAYUGA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified June 26, 1937

Whereas, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized Tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Secretary of the Interior on April 26, 1937, and ratified by the Indians of the said tribe on May 15, 1937, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said tribe, by resolution of the Seneca-Cayuga Business Committee duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the members of the Tribe;

Now, therefore, I, Harold L. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this charter of incorporation to the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per centum of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma and its members;

(b) To advance the standard of living of the Tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing land holdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe;

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated Tribe shall be as provided in the said constitution and by-laws.

3. The Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) and section 6 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967) or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Tribe.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the Tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or federal projects for the benefit of the Tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the Tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of the Council and Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Seneca-Cayuga Indians.

(q) To impose penalites on members of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe for violation of the corporate by-laws or ordinances, not exceeding in any case $100.00 for any one offense, or in the alternative, expulsion from the Tribe or suspension of voting rights therein.

(r) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal.

(s) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(t) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(u) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the Tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(v) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations.

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income shall be made for more than five years in advance, except as security for a loan which has been used to create such income.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than $300, or of more than $100 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $500.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe, in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of review established by section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Seneca-Cayuga Council. At or before the expiration of this ten-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Seneca-Cayuga Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individuals, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an Act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to referendum vote by all members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, provided that at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Quapaw Indian Agency and by the Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma in a popular referendum vote to be held on June 26, 1937.

CHARLES WEST,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., May 29, 1937.

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on May 29, 1937 by the Secretary of the Interior to the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on June 26, 1937 duly ratified by a vote of 161 for and none against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

THOMAS ARMSTRONG,
Chief of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

GROVER C. SPLITLOG,
Secretary-Treasurer of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent of the Quapaw Agency.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SENECA-CAYUGA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Approved April 26, 1937

## PREAMBLE

We, the Seneca-Cayuga Indians of Oklahoma, sometimes designated as the Seneca Tribe, in order to take advantage of the opportunities of economic independence and social independence and social advancement offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, do hereby amend our present Constitution and By-laws and do adopt the following Constitution and By-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — OBJECT

The object shall be to promote the general welfare of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

The membership of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(1) All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

(2) All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(3) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe who chooses to affiliate with the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

(4) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

## ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Seneca-Cayuga Council. The membership of the Seneca-Cayuga Council shall be all Seneca-Cayuga Indians residing in Oklahoma; males, 21 years of age; and females, 18 years of age.

## ARTICLE V — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the chief, second chief, secretary-treasurer, interpreter, and three councilmen, who shall be elected at an open Council meeting by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE VI — BUSINESS COMMITTEES

There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article V.

The Business Committee shall have power to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe, in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter to be requested by the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Grievance Committee.—This committee shall be elected by the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Credit Committee.—The Credit Committee shall be chosen by the Business Committee and shall act under the supervision of the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. Welfare Committee.—This committee shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

SEC. 4. Education Committee.—This committee likewise shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII — ANNUAL MEETINGS

Annual meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of June of each year for the election of officers and receiving reports and any other business which may come regularly before the Council. The term of officers shall be for two years or until their successors are elected and installed. Regular elections shall be held each odd numbered year. Nominations shall be from the floor. Election shall be by standing vote or by written ballot, a majority vote being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates and no one receives a majority vote the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting proceed until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE IX — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Seneca-Cayuga Council.

## ARTICLE X — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct or other acts of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Seneca-Cayuga Council to act upon such complaints. Such council shall have power, by majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 percent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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## BY-LAWS

### ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chief.—It shall be the duty of the chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, also to act as chairman of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Second Chief.—In the absence of the chief, the second chief shall perform the duties of that officer. In case of vacancy, the second chief shall succeed at once to the office of the chief until the next special or regular election for the office of chief.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the chief, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the council and, in the absence of the chief and second chief, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal moneys.

### ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership in the Business Committee shall be not less than twenty-five years of age, a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma and a resident of Delaware or Ottawa Counties in Oklahoma. Any member of the Business Committee removing from such territory shall automatically lose his office.

### ARTICLE III — REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Council shall be held on the first Tuesday of June of each year at the tribal stomp ground, unless some other point under the Seneca jurisdiction is specifically designated in the call.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the council may be called at the discretion of the chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or the written request of 30 members of the Tribe.

SEC. 3. The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. The regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held the first Tuesday in each month unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Four members of the Business Committee constitutes a quorum at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Thirty members of the Seneca-Cayuga Council shall constitute a quorum to transact regular business.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the Indians of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved April 26, 1937 by the Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe and was on May 15, 1937, duly ratified by a vote of 186 for, and none against, in an election in which over 20 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (Pub., No. 816, 74th Cong.).

THOMAS ARMSTRONG,
Chief, Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

GROVER C. SPLITLOG,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent.

I, Harold L. Ickes, the Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (Pub., No. 816, 74th Cong.), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the

Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

All rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws are hereby declared inapplicable to the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

Approval recommended: April 20, 1937.

JOHN COLLIER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HAROLD L. ICKES,
Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 26, 1937.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified December 5, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure to ourselves and our descendants, the rights powers and privileges offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act, approved June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967) do establish this organization and adopt the following Constitution and By-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be known as the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood enrolled on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

(b) All children born to any member of the Tribe after January 1, 1937 who are of Absentee-Shawnee Indian blood.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Absentee-Shawnee Council. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe, both males and females 21 years of age and older.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Tribe shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer and two Councilmen elected by the membership of the Council. The term of office shall be for two years: Provided, That the present officers shall serve until their successors are elected and installed.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. This Committee shall have the power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter to be requested by the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Grievance Committee.—This Committee shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the membership of the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee. The term of office shall be for two years.

## ARTICLE VI — ELECTIONS

The first regular election of officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be held within 30 days after the adoption of this Constitution and By-laws, and, thereafter, regular elections will be held on the third Monday in June of each second year under rules and regulations prescribed by the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term by appointment of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Council to act upon such complaints. The Council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office.

## ARTICLE IX — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way alter, abridge, or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws without the consent of such individual member.

SEC. 4. Nothing contained in this Constitution shall be construed as a surrender by the Tribe of existing aide and services extended by the United States or the State of Oklahoma to the Tribe, such as health service, education, extension service, etc.

## ARTICLE X — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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88

# BY-LAWS OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Business Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chairman.

SEC. 2. The Vice-Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, or during procedure to remove him shall perform the duties of that office.

SEC. 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the Chairman, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, shall call the meeting to order until a Chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50 he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Business Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. At the time of his election, he shall be an actual resident of the Shawnee Indian Agency jurisdiction. Any person holding an elective office removing from the said jurisdiction shall automatically lose office.

## ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Monday in June of each year for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chairman, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of 50 members of the Tribe: Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of a special Council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added no other business may be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. Unless otherwise provided by resolution, the regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the third Monday in September, December, March, and June of each year.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chairman at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 6. Unless some other point under the Shawnee Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee shall be held at the Shawnee Indian Agency.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Forty members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority of the Indians of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under the regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, provided, that at least 20 per cent of the eligible voters vote in said election.

I, Harry Slattery, the Acting Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

Approval recommended October 5, 1938.

F. H. DAIKER,
Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

HARRY SLATTERY,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 18, 1938. [SEAL]

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## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved October 18, 1938 by the Acting Secretary of the

Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on December 5, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 121 for, and 50 against, in an election in which over 20 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THOMAS B. HOOD,
Chairman, Business Committee.

THOMAS W. ALFORD, JR.
Secretary, Business Committee.

A. C. HECTOR,
Superintendent, Shawnee Indian Agency.

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

AMENDMENT I: ?

AMENDMENT II:

Article II - Membership of Tribe - of the Constitution is amended as follows:

SECTION 1. The membership of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood enrolled on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

(b) All children born to any member of the Tribe, after January 1, 1937, and before the effective date of Amendment II to this Constitution and Bylaws who are of Absentee-Shawnee Indian blood.

(c) All children born on or after the effective date of Amendment II to this Constitution and Bylaws who are one-fourth or more Absentee-Shawnee Indian blood, one of whose parents is a member of the Tribe.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## APPROVAL

I, Orme Lewis, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 1, 1953

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

ORME LEWIS
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 16, 1953.

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on December 16, 1953 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment II to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 17, 1954 , duly ratified by a vote of 43 for, and 1 against, in an election in which at least ___ percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

CHAS. R. ALFORD
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

THOMAS B. HOOD
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT III:

Article VI - Elections - of the Constitution is amended as follows:

[The first] Regular elections of officers and members of the Grievance Committee [shall be held within 30 days after the adoption of the Constitution and Bylaws, and, thereafter, regular elections] will be held on the third [Monday] Saturday in June of each second year under rules and regulations prescribed by the Business Committee.

## APPROVAL

I, Orme Lewis , Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 1, 1953

GLENN L. EMMONS
Comissioner of Indian Affairs

ORME LEWIS
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 16, 1953

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on December 16, 1953, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment III to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 17, 1954, duly ratified by a vote of 42 for, and 2 against, in an election in which at least ___ percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

CHAS. R. ALFORD
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

THOMAS B. HOOD
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

***

AMENDMENT IV:

Article III - Meetings - of the Bylaws is amended as follows:

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the third [Monday] Saturday in June of each year for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chairman, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of 50 members of the Tribe: Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of a special Council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented". Unless these words are added no other business may be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. Unless otherwise provided by resolution, the regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the third [Monday] Saturday in September, December, March and June of each year.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chairman at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 6. Unless some other point under the Shawnee Agency jurisdiction as it existed on the date of the adoption of this Constitution is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee shall be held at the location of such Shawnee Indian Agency.

## APPROVAL

I, Orme Lewis, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 1, 1953

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

ORME LEWIS
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 16, 1953

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on December 16, 1953, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment IV to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 17, 1954, duly ratified by a vote of 43 for, and 2 against, in an election in which at least ___ percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

CHAS. R. ALFORD
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

THOMAS B. HOOD
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT V:

Article IV - Quorum - of the Bylaws is amended as follows:

SECTION 1. [Forty] Twenty-five members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## APPROVAL

I, Orme Lewis, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 1, 1953

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

ORME LEWIS
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 16, 1953

[SEAL]

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on December 16, 1953, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment V to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 17, 1954, duly ratified by a vote of 44 for, and 0 against, in an election in which at least ___ percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

CHAS. R. ALFORD
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

THOMAS B. HOOD
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

***

AMENDMENT VI:

Article II - Qualification of Officers - of the Bylaws is amended as follows:

Any person elected to membership on the Business Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. At the time of his election, he shall be an actual resident of the Shawnee Indian Agency jurisdiction as it existed on the date of the adoption of this Constitution. Any person holding an elective office removing from the said jurisdiction shall automatically lose office.

APPROVAL

I, Orme Lewis, Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: December 1, 1953

GLENN L. EMMONS
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

ORME LEWIS
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.
December 16, 1953

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on December 16, 1953, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment VI to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 17, 1954, duly ratified by a vote of 45 for, and 0 against, in an election in which at least ___ percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

CHAS. R. ALFORD
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

THOMAS B. HOOD
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

E. V. DOWNING
Acting Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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AMENDMENT VII:

Article II - Membership of Tribe - of the Constitution is amended as follows:

SECTION 1. The membership of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood enrolled, or who were entitled to be enrolled, on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

(b) All children born to any member of the Tribe after January 1, 1937, and before the effective date of Amendment II to this Constitution and Bylaws who are of Absentee-Shawnee Indian blood.

(c) All children born on or after the effective date of Amendment II to this Constitution and Bylaws who are one-fourth or more Absentee-Shawnee Indian blood, one of whose parents is a member of the Tribe.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## APPROVAL

I, Roger Ernst , Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the above amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

Approval recommended: August 30, 1957

FRED H. MASSEY
Actg. Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs

ROGER ERNST
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.

[SEAL]

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved on August 30, 1957, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Amendment VII to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma was submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on November 16, 1957, duly ratified by a vote of 40 for, and 8 against, in an election in which at least 9.5 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Oklahoma Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

ARTHUR ROLETTE
Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

ELLEN F. WAPP
Vice-Chairman, Absentee-Shawnee
Business Committee

WILL J. PITNER
Area Director, Anadarko Area Office.

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97

# CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE EASTERN SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified December 12, 1940

Whereas, the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a Constitution and By-laws approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on November 7, 1939, and ratified by the Indians of the said Tribe on December 22, 1939, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said Tribe, by resolution of the Eastern Shawnee Business Committee duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said Tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the members of the Tribe;

Now, therefore, I, W. C. Mendenhall, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this Charter of incorporation to the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and its members;

(b) To advance the standard of living of the Tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing landholdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe;

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said Tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated tribe shall be as provided in the said Constitution and By-laws.

3. Corporate Powers. The Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Tribe may require and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), and section 6 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), or from any other governmental agency, or from any member or association of members of the Tribe, and to use such funds directly for productive tribal enterprises, or to loan money thus borrowed to individual members or associations of members of the Tribe: Provided, That the amount of indebtedness to which the Tribe may subject itself, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, shall not exceed $150 except with the express approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the Tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or Federal projects for the benefit of the Tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the Tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

(n) To regulate the procedure and manner of holding tribal elections.

99

(o) To regulate the procedure of the Council and Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

(q) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal, subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter.

(r) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(s) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(t) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the Tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(u) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be mortgaged; no tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold except in the exercise of the law of eminent domain.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit, or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit, or contract is awarded must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income shall be made for more than five years in advance, except as security for a loan from the United States.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than $300, or of more than $100 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to an amount in excess of $150.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of review established by section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Eastern Shawnee Council. At or before the expiration of this ten-year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Eastern Shawnee Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individual, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by petition signed by 30 percent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of all the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, provided that at least 30 percent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Quapaw Agency and by the Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Eastern Shawnee Tribe.

W. C. MENDENHALL,
Acting Assistant Secretary.

[SEAL]

Washington, D. C., October 17, 1940.

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I, W. C. Mendenhall, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Charter of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the Tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this Charter all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Charter and the Constitution and By-laws, approved by me November 7, 1939, and duly ratified by the Tribe on December 22, 1939, are declared inapplicable to the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, and the Charter if, and when, ratified by the Tribe.

Approval recommended: October 7, 1940.

WALTER V. WOEHLKE,
Assistant to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

W. C. MENDENHALL,
Acting Assistant Secretary

[SEAL]

Washinton, D. C., October 17, 1940.

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on October 17, 1940, by the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior to the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on December 12, 1940, duly ratified by a vote of 60 for and 1 against, in an election in which over 30 percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

WALTER L. BLUE JACKET,
Chief, Eastern Shawnee Tribe.
T. A. CAPTAIN,
Secretary-Treasurer, Eastern Shawnee Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent, Quapaw Indian Agency.

# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE EASTERN SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified December 22, 1939

## PREAMBLE

We, the Eastern Shawnee Indians of Oklahoma, in order to take advantage of the opportunities of economic independence and social advancement offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do adopt the following constitution and by-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the "Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma."

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1938.

(b) All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(c) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe who chooses to affiliate with the Eastern Shawnee Tribe.

(d) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe and any other person, if such child is enrolled before attaining the age of five years. Where no such enrollment is made, such child may be admitted to membership by the Eastern Shawnee Council.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Eastern Shawnee Council. The membership of the Council shall be all of the Eastern Shawnee Indians, 21 years of age and older.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the Chief, First Councilman, Second Councilman, Third Councilman and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be elected at an open Council meeting by a majority vote of the membership present, provided that the present officers shall serve until their successors are elected and installed.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. The Business Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter which may be requested by the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Grievance Committee.—This committee shall consist of three members who shall be elected by the membership of the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VI — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Elections of officers and members of the Grievance Committee may be held by the Council at any regular or special meeting. The first election of officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be held on or before the second Monday in July, 1940.

SEC. 2. The term of office for officers and members of the Grievance Committee shall be for two years, unless otherwise provided for by action of the Council at the time of election of the respective officers and members of the Grievance Committee.

SEC. 3. Nominations shall be madefrom the floor. Election shall be by standing vote or by written ballot, a majority vote being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates and no one receives a majority vote the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting shall proceed until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE VII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective offices shall be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Eastern Shawnee Council.

## ARTICLE VIII — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct or other acts of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Eastern Shawnee Council to act upon such complaints. Such Council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE IX — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This constitution shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged or otherwise affected by the provisions of this constitution and by-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE X — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 percent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote of those voting at such an election.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE EASTERN SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION.1. Chief.—It shall be the duty of the Chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, and also to act as chairman of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. First Councilman.—In the absence of the Chief, or during procedure to remove him, the First Councilman shall perform the duties of that officer. In case of vacancy, the First Councilman shall succeed at once to the office of the Chief until the next special or regular election for the office of Chief.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of business for the Chief, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the Chief and First Councilman, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office all records and papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Business Committee or Grievance Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age, a member of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and a resident of the Quapaw Indian Agency jurisdiction. Any member of the Business Committee removing from the Quapaw jurisdiction shall automatically lose his office.

## ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the second Monday in July for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports, and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or upon the written request of ten members of the Tribe; Provided, That at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. Unless otherwise provided by resolution, the regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held on the second Saturday in each month.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 6. Unless some other point under the Quapaw Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Council and of the Business Committee shall be held at the Bluejacket School House.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Three members of the Business Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Ten or more members of the Eastern Shawnee Council shall constitute a quorum to transact regular business.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Sedretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the Indians of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, provided at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters vote in said election.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 7, 1939.

## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to an order, approved November 7, 1939 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and was on December 22, 1939 duly approved by a vote of 54 for, and 2 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE EASTERN SHAWNEE BUSINESS COMMITTEE,

By WALTER L. BLUEJACKET,
THOMAS A. CAPTAIN,
ORA S. HAMPTON,
EDW. H. BLUEJACKET,
DAVID DUSHANE, JR.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent, Quapaw Agency.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE THLOPTHLOCCO TRIBAL TOWN

Ratified December 27, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town of the Creek Indian Nation, of the State of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure and obtain for ourselves and for our posterity the benefits, rights, privileges and powers, offered to us by the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of Congress, approved June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), known as the Thomas-Rogers Act, do hereby adopt and ordain the following constitution and by-laws of this town.

## ARTICLE I — OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this town shall be:

SECTION 1. To secure and obtain the benefits, rights, privileges, and powers as provided for under the Act of Congress approved June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), known as the Thomas-Rogers Act and that part of the Act of Congress approved June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), known as the Indian Reorganization Act, so far as same has been made applicable to Oklahoma Indians, for the benefit of the members.

SEC. 2. To secure and obtain the benefits, rights, privileges, and powers as provided for by any laws of the United States now existing or that may hereafter be enacted for the benefit of Indians or other citizens of the United States and administered by various government agencies, such as relief, conservation, rehabilitation, resettlement, economic, educational, health, hospitalization, and other programs.

SEC. 3. To promote the general welfare of the town and its members.

## ARTICLE II — NAME

The name of this town is Thlopthlocco Tribal Town.

## ARTICLE III — HEADQUARTERS

The Thlopthlocco Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which is centrally located between Okemah and Wetumka, in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, shall be the headquarters of this town, unless and until otherwise provided by the Governing Body.

## ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of this organization shall consist of the following:

(a) All Indians who were on either the 1890 authenticated census roll or the 1895 pay roll of the said town were and shall be members.

(b) All persons born of parents both of whom were members when the persons were born were and shall be members.

(c) All Indians born of women who were members of this town when such persons were born were and shall be members of this town.

(d) All Indians born of non-Creek women whose fathers were members of this town when such persons were born were and shall be members of this town.

SEC. 2. Any Indian may be adopted as a member of this town by the Town King with the consent of the members of this town by a majority vote at a regular meeting, with the consent of the authorities of the Creek Town from which the person came, if any, and with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 3. Any person who is adopted shall relinquish his membership in any other Indian Tribe or band, other than the Creek Nation of Indians of Oklahoma, before adoption into this town.

## ARTICLE V — GOVERNING BODY

SECTION 1. The officers of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town shall be a Town King, two Warriors, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the town membership and their terms of office shall be for a period of four years, or until their successors are elected and installed.

SEC. 2. Within thirty days after the adoption of this Constitution and By-laws, the membership of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town shall hold an election of the officers. An election of officers shall be held each fourth year thereafter.

SEC. 3. There shall be an advisory council consisting of five adult members of the town who shall be appointed by the officers.

SEC. 4. The governing body shall be known as the Business Committee and shall consist of the town officers and members of the advisory council.

SEC. 5. At any election held by the membership of this town, both males and females 21 years of age and over shall be eligible to vote. Election shall be by standing vote and a majority of the votes cast shall determine the action thereon.

SEC. 6. In case of vacancies in any elective office, the remaining elected officers shall appoint a successor to fill such office for the unexpired term.

SEC. 7. The Business Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the town on all matters in which the town is empowered to act now or ih the future.

## ARTICLE VI — REMOVAL OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

There shall be a Grievance Committee, consisting of three adult members of the town, who shall be appointed by the Business Committee. The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the town members to act upon such complaints. The town membership shall have power, by majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office.

## ARTICLE VII — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the town shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This constitution shall not be construed in any way to alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this town as citizens of the Creek Nation, the State of Oklahoma, or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the town shall not be altered, abridged, or otherwise affected by the provisions of this constitution and by-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this constitution and by-laws may be proposed by a majority of the Governing Body, or by a petition filed by thirty per cent of the adult members of this town, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum of the members of this town and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote of those voting in the election, provided at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE THLOPTHLOCCO TRIBAL TOWN

## ARTICLE I — OATH OF OFFICE

Prior to assuming office under this constitution and by-laws, the following oath of office shall be taken by the Town King and all other elected officers and appointed committee members, the Town King taking his oath before a notary public, or any other official authorized to administer oaths, and all others taking their oaths before the Town King:

"I, ----------------, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States; that I will carry out, satisfactorily and impartially, the duties of my office to the best of my ability; that I will promote and protect the best interests of my town in accordance with this constitution and by-laws, so help me God."

## ARTICLE II — DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the Business Committee, and each member thereof, to promote the general welfare of the members of this town and to carry out the provisions and purposes of this constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Town King to preside over all meetings and carry out all orders of the Business Committee. All members of the Business Committee and all subordinate officers shall assist the Town King in all proper ways to carry out the orders of the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall keep a full report of all proceedings of each regular and special meeting of the Business Committee or the town membership.

110

SEC. 4. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all moneys which may come under the jurisdiction of and into the control of the Business Committee. He shall pay out money in accordance with the orders and resolutions of the Business Committee. He shall keep an account of all receipts and disbursements and shall report the same to the Business Committee at each regular meeting. Upon order of the Business Committee, he shall make bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The books of said Treasurer shall be subject to audit or investigation at the direction of the Business Committee, or the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Until the Treasurer is bonded the Business Committee may make such provisions for the custody and disbursement of funds as will guarantee the safety and proper disbursement thereof.

## ARTICLE III — QUORUM

Six or more members of the Business Committee, which must include one elected officer to preside as Chairman, shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Committee at any meeting.

## ARTICLE IV — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Town membership meetings shall be held, annually, each year from adoption of this constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 2. Regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held quarterly from the date of the adoption of this Constitution and by-laws.

SEC. 3. Regular and special meetings of the Business Committee and town membership may be called upon order of the Business Committee and shall be held at the Thlopthlocco Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, unless the Town King deems it convenient to hold such meetings at another place.

## ARTICLE V — ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business of the Business Committee shall be as follows: (1) Call to order by the chairman or presiding officer; (2) invocation; (3) roll call; (4) ascertainment of a quorum; (5) reading of minutes of previous meeting; (6) adoption of minutes by vote; (7) unfinished business; (8) new business; and (9) adjournment.

## ARTICLE VI — ADOPTION

This constitution and by-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the members of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under rules and regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

Approval recommended November 10, 1938.

JOHN COLLIER,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., November 17, 1938.

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CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved November 17, 1938 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town of Oklahoma and was on December 27, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 95 for, and 4 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE THLOPTHLOCCO GOVERNING COMMITTEE,

By CLEM ROBISON,
L. E. DUNSON.

J. T. WILKINSON,
Acting Superintendent, Five Civilized Tribes.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE TONKAWA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified April 21, 1938

## PREAMBLE

We, the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, in order to promote our common welfare and to secure to ourselves and our descendants, the rights, powers and privileges offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act (49 Stat. 1967), approved June 26,1936, do establish this organization and adopt the following constitution and by-laws pursuant to that Act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRIBE

SECTION 1. The membership of the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

(a) All persons enrolled on the official census roll of the tribe as of the date of adoption of this Constitution.

(b) All children born since the date of the adoption of this Constitution, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

(c) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Tonkawa Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe who chooses to affiliate with the Tonkawa Tribe.

(d) Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Tonkawa Tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council of the Tonkawa Tribe.

(e) Any Indian, one of whose parents is an enrolled Tonkawa Indian on an official roll of any Indian agency jurisdiction, may be admitted to membership by the Tribal Council.

SEC. 2. The Council shall have power to prescribe rules and regulations, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, covering future membership including adoptions and the loss of membership.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Tonkawa Tribal Council. The membership of the Council shall be all members of the Tonkawa Tribe, both males and females 21 years of age or older. All actions of the Council shall be determined by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. The term of office shall be for two years, except as provided in Section 2 of Article V.

## ARTICLE V — TRIBAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. There shall be a Tribal Committee which shall consist of the officers as provided in Article IV. This Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the Corporate Charter to be requested by the Tribal Committee.

SEC. 2. Within 30 days after the adoption of this Constitution, the present Tonkawa Tribal Committee shall organize for business under this Constitution by selecting from among its membership a President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer. The President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer so selected shall constitute the Tonkawa Tribal Committee, which shall serve until the first Monday in April 1939, or until their successors are elected and installed.

## ARTICLE VI — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. Regular elections of officers shall be held by the Council on the first Monday in April 1939, and on the first Monday in April of each second year thereafter.

SEC. 2. Election shall be by written ballot, a majority vote of the Council members present being necessary to elect. Nominations may be made from the floor. The election of the President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be held separately and in the order named above. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE VII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term at any special or regular meeting of the Council.

## ARTICLE VIII — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Any member of the Council shall have the right to file a complaint against any or all members of the Tribal Committee, and the Council shall select a committee of three of its members, not including a member of the Tribal Committee, to hear and investigate the complaint and report back to the Council at the next regular or special meeting. The Council shall have the power by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him or her from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE IX — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. This Constitution shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeo-

114

pardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual vested property rights of any member of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged or otherwise affected by the provisions of this Constitution and By-laws without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE X — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Tribal Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the adult members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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# BY-LAWS OF THE TONKAWA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

## ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Tribal Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Tribal Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of President.

SEC. 2. In the absence of the President, or during proceedings to remove him, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of that office. In case of vacancy, the Vice-President shall succeed at once to the office of President until the next special or regular election for the office of President.

SEC. 3. The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the President, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting, and at the expiration of his term of office the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Tribal Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all Tribal moneys intrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Tribal Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of Tribal moneys.

## ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Tribal Committee shall be not less than

115

21 years of age and a member of the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma. At the time of his election, he shall be an actual resident of the State of Oklahoma. Any person holding an elective office who moves from the State of Oklahoma shall automatically lose office.

## ARTICLE III — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the first Monday of December for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the President, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Tribal Committee or upon the written request of ten members of the Tribe: Provided, That at least five days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The regular meetings of the Tribal Committee shall be held on the first Monday in each month unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 4. Special meetings of the Tribal Committee may be called by the President at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of two members of the Tribal Committee.

SEC. 5. Unless some other point under the Pawnee Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice, all meetings of the Council and of the Tribal Committee shall be held at the Tonkawa Community House.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Twelve members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Two members of the Tribal Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority of the members of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under rules and regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached constitution and by-laws of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to ratification by the Tribe in the manner therein provided.

Upon ratification of this constitution all rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said constitution and by-laws, are declared inapplicable to the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said constitution and by-laws.

Approval recommended March 10, 1938.

WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN, JR.
Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

[SEAL]

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 16, 1938.

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CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved March 16, 1938 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma and was on April 21, 1938 duly approved by a vote of 9 for, and 7 against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967).

THE TONKAWA ELECTION COMMITTEE,

By JOHN RUSH BUFFALO,
PAUL ALLEN,
WALTER JEFFERSON,.

LEM A. TOWERS,
Superintendent, Pawnee Indian Agency.

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# GOVERNING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE WICHITA INDIAN TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified May 8, 1961

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma is not organized under the provisions of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act and does not possess a constitution and bylaws or rules and regulations for the conduction of tribal business, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma to establish rules and regulations under which the tribe can operate and function as a tribal organization, and

WHEREAS, the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma adopted membership rules and regulations on October 9, 1956 and it is the desire of the Wichita Tribe to incorporate these membership regulations in this document and shall become Article II as shown hereinafter, now

Be it resolved that the following Articles and Sections become the governing rules and regulations of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be "The Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma."

## ARTICLE II — MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of all living original Wichita allottees and the living direct descendants by blood of all original Wichita allottees, except the following persons:

(a) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who elect to be enrolled with another tribe.

(b) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who have received any payments in land or money by virtue or having been enrolled with some other tribe.

SEC. 2. The Executive Committee shall prepare and maintain a current roll of the membership of the tribe based upon the rules set forth in Section 1.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Wichita Council. The membership of the Council shall be all the members of the Wichita Tribe, males 21 years of age and females 18 years of age.

## ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three alternate Councilmen. The alternate councilmen will serve with full voting power but without pay unless substituting for an executive officer. The term of officers shall be for four years and the present officers elected to office on January 9, 1961 shall serve until the first election under these rules and regulations is held on the third Saturday of July, 1964.

## ARTICLE V — COMMITTEES

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article IV. This Committee shall have power to appoint subordinate committees and representatives, to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Tribe in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act now or in the future.

## ARTICLE VI — MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Annual meetings of the Council shall be held on the third Saturday in July each year for the purpose of receiving reports and transacting any other business which may come regularly before the Council.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the President, and shall be called by him upon the written request of a majority of the Executive Committee or upon the written request of 20 members of the Tribe; Provided, that at least ten days' notice shall be given in each instance.

SEC. 3. The principal object of a special council meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented." Unless these words are added no other business may be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. The regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held the second Monday in January, April, July, and October of each year unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the President at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. The first election under these rules and regulations shall be held at the annual meeting on the third Saturday of July, 1964. Regular elections of officers shall be held on the third Saturday of July each fourth year thereafter.

SEC. 2. Election shall be by standing vote, a majority of the membership present being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates for office and no one receives a majority vote, the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting shall proceed until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election, and serve until their successors are elected and installed.

SEC. 3. To be eligible for election under Section 1 of this Article, notice of candidacy for elective office must be filed with the Officer in Charge of the Kiowa Area Field Office at least 30 days prior to election. To be eligible for election under Section 2 of this Article, notice of candidacy for an elective office must be filed with the Secretary of the Council at least 30 days prior to election. Such notice shall be valid if filed by a candidate himself or upon the petition of 20 members of the Council. Where no such notices are filed, nominations may be made from the floor. No person shall be a candidate for more than one office at any one election.

## ARTICLE VIII — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled for an unexpired term at any special or regular meeting of the Council.

## ARTICLE IX — REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Upon the signed petition of 20 members of the Council, the President shall call a special meeting of the Council to act upon complaints of misconduct in office of members of the Executive Committee, provided such complaints are supported by affidavits. The Council shall have power, by a majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing and if found guilty of charges to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE X — BILL OF RIGHTS

SECTION 1. All members of the Tribe shall enjoy without hindrance, freedom of worship, conscience, speech, press, assembly and association.

SEC. 2. These rules and regulations shall not in any way alter, abridge or otherwise jeopardize the rights and privileges of the members of this Tribe as Citizens of the State of Oklahoma or of the United States.

SEC. 3. The individual property rights of any members of the Tribe shall not be altered, abridged or otherwise affected by the provisions of these rules and regulations without the consent of such individual member.

## ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

These rules and regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Wichita Indian Tribe, provided a quorum is present, at an election called for that purpose by the President of the Wichita Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the President of the Wichita Executive Committee to call such an election or referendum at the request of a majority of the Wichita Executive Committee members or upon presentation of a petition signed by at least 20 adult members of the Wichita Council; provided that not less than (30) thirty days' notice of such a meeting and proposed amendments shall be given members of the tribe directly by mail, if feasible, and by appropriate publicity throughout the communities in which the tribal members reside.

## ARTICLE XII — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. President: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee. He shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Council and of the Executive Committee and shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of president.

SEC. 2. Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the office. In the case of vacancy, the Vice-President shall succeed at once to the office of the President until the next special or regular election for the office of President.

SEC. 3. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all proceedings and official records of the Council and of the Executive Committee and shall file a copy of same with the Officer in Charge of the Kiowa Area Field Office. He shall be responsible for the prompt and efficient handling of all correspondence pertaining to the business of the Council and of the Executive Committee. All official records of the Secretary shall be open to inspection by the members of the Council, in the presence of the Secretary, upon the order of the Executive Committee or upon the written request of 20 members of the Council. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and in the absence of the President and Vice-President, shall call meetings to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. At the expiration of his term of office, the records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor.

SEC. 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all funds in possession of the Council from any source. He shall keep an accurate record of all such funds and shall disburse the same in accordance with the vote of the Executive Committee. He shall render a written report at the annual Council meeting and at such time as he is requested to do so by the Executive Committee, and shall file a copy of same with the Officer in Charge of the Kiowa Area Field Office. He shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Executive Committee and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal money. At the expiration of his term of office, the records and all papers and funds in his possession shall be turned over to his successor.

## ARTICLE XIII — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership on the Executive Committee shall be not less than 21 years of age and a member of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma. Any person holding an elective office who without reasonable cause misses three regularly called meetings in succession shall automatically lose office.

## ARTICLE XIV — PLACE OF MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the Council and of the Executive Committee shall be held at the Anadarko Area Field Office unless some other point under the Kiowa Agency jurisdiction is designated in the call or notice.

## ARTICLE XV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Fifteen members of the Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business at any meeting.

The foregoing resolution was adopted in a duly called meeting of the adult members of the Wichita Indian Tribe of Oklahoma by a vote of 32 for and 0 against on this 8 day of May, 1961 .

LOUIS ZADOKA,
President

ATTEST:

INEZ VANCE,
Secretary

APPROVED:

MARTIN P. MANGAN
Acting Commissioner [of Indian Affairs]

August 8, 1961

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## MEMBERSHIP REGULATIONS OF THE WICHITA TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma desires to adopt membership rules and regulations that are simple and easy of application to provide the basis for the preparation and maintenance of an official membership roll of the Wichita Tribe of Indians, and

WHEREAS, the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma desires that the membership of the tribe consist of all living original Wichita allottees and the direct descendants by blood of original allottees, unless such persons elect to belong to some other tribe by virtue of being blood of another tribe or those who have received payments by virtue of having been enrolled with some other tribe, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY the Executive Committee of the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma in meeting duly assembled that the following shall constitute the Wichita Indians tribal membership regulations.

SECTION 1. The membership of the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma shall consist of all living original Wichita allottees and the living direct descendants by blood of all original Wichita Allottees, except the following persons:

(a) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who elect to be enrolled with another tribe.

(b) Those persons otherwise entitled to enrollment who have received any payments in land or money by virtue of having been enrolled with some other tribe.

SEC. 2. The Executive Committee shall prepare and maintain a current roll of the membership of the tribe based upon the rules set forth in Section 1.

Adopted this 15th day of September 1956, by the Executive Committee of the Wichita Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma by vote of 30 in favor of the resolution and 0 opposed.

ATTEST:

FRANK MILLER,
Chairman.

INEZ VANCE,
Acting Secretary.

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## CORPORATE CHARTER OF THE

## WYANDOTTE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified October 30, 1937

Whereas, the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma constitutes a recognized Tribe of Indians residing in Oklahoma, organized under a constitution and by-laws approved by the Secretary of the Interior on July 17, 1937, and ratified by the Indians of the said Tribe on July 24, 1937, pursuant to section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967); and

Whereas, the said Tribe, by resolution of the Wyandotte Business Committee duly authorized, has requested that a charter of incorporation be issued to the said Tribe, subject to ratification by a vote of the members of the Tribe;

Now, therefore, I, Oscar L. Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said act of June 26, 1936, do hereby issue this charter of incorporation to the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, to be effective from and after such time as it may be ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the Wyandotte Tribe voting: Provided, however, That such election shall be void unless the total vote cast be at least 30 per centum of those entitled to vote.

1. Corporate Purposes. The corporate purposes of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma shall be:

(a) To define and safeguard the rights and powers of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma and its members;

(b) To advance the standard of living of the Tribe through the development of tribal resources, the acquisition of new tribal land, the preservation of existing landholdings, the better utilization of land and the development of a credit program for the Tribe;

(c) To promote in any other way the general welfare of the Indians of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma.

2. Name, Membership and Organization. The name of this corporation shall be the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, as provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the said Tribe. The membership, the officers, and the management of the incorporated tribe shall be as provided in the said constitution and by-laws.

3. Corporate Powers. The Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States or in the Constitution and By-laws of the Tribe, and subject to the limitations of sections 4 and 5 of this Charter, shall have the following corporate powers as provided by section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

(a) To have succession by its corporate name perpetually.

(b) To sue and be sued; to complain and defend in any court: Provided, however, That the grant or exercise of such power shall not be deemed a consent by the Tribe or by the United States to the levy of any judgment, lien or attachment upon the property of the Tribe other than income or chattels specially pledged or assigned.

(c) To make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

(d) To appoint such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the Tribe may require, and to allow them suitable compensation.

(e) To enter into any obligations or contracts essential to the transaction of its ordinary affairs or for the corporate purposes above set forth.

(f) To borrow money from the Indian Credit Fund in accordance with the terms of section 10 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), from any other governmental agency, from any member or association of members of the Tribe, or from any other source.

(g) To deposit corporate funds in a National Bank within the State of Oklahoma or in the Postal Savings Bank or with a bonded disbursing officer of the United States.

(h) To negotiate with the Federal, State, or local governments and to advise or consult with the representatives of the Interior Department on all activities of the Department that may affect the Wyandotte Tribe.

(i) To employ counsel for the protection and advancement of the rights of the Tribe and its members.

(j) To prevent any disposition, lease, or encumbrance of tribal lands, interests in land, or other tribal assets.

(k) To advise the Secretary of the Interior with regard to appropriation estimates or federal projects for the benefit of the Tribe prior to the submission of such estimates to the Bureau of the Budget and to Congress.

(l) To make assignments of tribal land to members of the Tribe, and to regulate the use and disposition of such assignments.

(m) To appropriate available funds for public purposes of the Wyandotte Tribe.

(n) To regulate the manner of holding tribal elections.

(o) To regulate the procedure of the Council and Business Committee and all other tribal committees and officers.

(p) To protect and preserve the property, natural resources, crafts and traditions of the Wyandotte Tribe.

(q) To impose penalties on members of the Wyandotte Tribe for violation of the corporate by-laws or ordinances, not exceeding in any case $100.00 for any one offense, or in the alternative, expulsion from the Tribe or suspension of voting rights therein.

(r) To purchase, take by gift, bequest or otherwise, own, hold, manage, operate, and dispose of property of every description, real or personal.

(s) To issue bonds or other interests in corporate property in exchange for restricted Indian lands.

(t) To protect all rights guaranteed to the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma by treaty.

(u) To delegate to subordinate bodies, committees, or officers, or to any cooperative association which is open to all members of the Tribe, any of the foregoing powers, reserving the right to review any actions taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

(v) To exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to the Tribe by the Secretary of the Interior or by any duly authorized officer or agency of government.

4. Limitations of Corporate Powers. The foregoing corporate powers shall be subject to the following limitations:

(a) No tribal land or interest in land shall ever be sold or mortgaged.

(b) No tribal land or interest in land shall be leased for a longer period than ten years, except that oil, gas, or mineral leases may be made for longer periods when authorized by law.

(c) Any lease, grazing permit, or timber sale contract covering tribal land shall provide that the person to whom such lease, permit, or contract is awarded, must conform with regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior under section 6 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

(d) No assignment of future corporate income shall be made for more than five years in advance, except as security for a loan which has been used to create such income.

(e) In any attorney's contract hereafter executed by the Tribe, the choice of attorneys and the fixing of fees shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

(f) No distribution of corporate property among the members of the Tribe shall be made, except out of the net profit of corporate enterprises after all corporate debts then due have been paid.

5. Departmental Review of Corporate Acts. Until ten years from the date of ratification of this Charter, or such other date as may be fixed pursuant to section 6, the following corporate acts or transactions shall be valid only after approval by the Secretary of the Interior or his duly authorized representative:

(a) Any contract involving a payment by the Tribe of more than $300 or of more than $100 in any one year.

(b) Any transaction by which the Tribe borrows money where such borrowing brings the total indebtedness of the Tribe, aside from loans from the Indian Credit Fund, to a figure in excess of $500.

(c) Any resolution or ordinance governing the making of land assignments to members of the Tribe, the acquisition of land from members of the Tribe, or the use of tribal land by individuals.

(d) Any lease, grazing permit, or other contract affecting tribal land, tribal minerals, or other tribal interest in land.

(e) Any per capita distribution of corporate income to members of the Tribe in excess of $200 in any one year.

6. Extension and Termination of Supervisory Powers. At any time within ten years after the ratification of this Charter, any power of review established by section 5 may be terminated by the Secretary of the Interior with the consent of the Wyandotte Council. At or before the expiration of this ten year period, the Secretary may propose a further extension of this period. Such proposed extension shall be effective unless disapproved by a three-fourths vote of the Wyandotte Council.

7. Corporate Rights and Property. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, not expressly referred to in the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe, shall not be abridged, but may be exercised by the people of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, through the adoption of appropriate additions and amendments to the Constitution, By-laws or Charter of the said Tribe. No property rights or claims of the Wyandotte Tribe existing prior to the ratification of this Charter shall be in any way impaired by anything contained in this Charter. The Tribal ownership of unallotted lands, whether or not occupied by any particular individuals, is hereby expressly recognized. The individually owned property of members of the Tribe shall not be subject to any corporate debts or liabilities without such owners' consent.

8. Amendments. This Charter shall not be revoked or surrendered except by an Act of Congress, but amendments may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe. Such amendments, if approved by the Secretary of the Interior, shall be submitted to referendum vote by all members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

9. Ratification. This Charter shall be effective from and after the date of its ratification by a majority vote of the adult members of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, provided that at least 30 per cent of the eligible voters shall vote, such ratification to be formally certified by the Superintendent of the Quapaw Agency and by the Chief and Secretary-Treasurer of the Tribe.

Submitted by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for ratification by the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma in a popular referendum vote to be held on October 30, 1937.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Washington, D. C., October 5, 1937. [SEAL]

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## CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), this Charter, issued on October 5, 1937 by the Secretary of the Interior to the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma was duly submitted for ratification to the adult members of the Tribe, and was on October 30, 1937 duly ratified by a vote of 148 for and none against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots.

L. N. COTTER,
Chief of the Wyandotte Tribe.

BERTHA CHEEK,
Secretary-Treasurer of the Wyandotte Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent of the Quapaw Indian Agency.

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# CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE WYANDOTTE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

Ratified July 24, 1937

## PREAMBLE

We, the Wyandotte Indians of Oklahoma, in order to take advantage of the opportunities of economic independence and social advancement offered by the Thomas-Rogers Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, (49 Stat. 1967), do adopt the following Constitution and By-laws pursuant to that act.

## ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE II — OBJECT

The object shall be to promote the general welfare of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma.

## ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP OF TRIBE

The membership of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma shall consist of the following persons:

1. All persons of Indian blood whose names appear on the official census roll of the Tribe as of January 1, 1937.

2. All children born since the date of the said roll, both of whose parents are members of the Tribe.

3. Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Wyandotte Tribe and a member of any other Indian tribe who chooses to affiliate with the Wyandotte Tribe.

4. Any child born of a marriage between a member of the Wyandotte Tribe and any other person, if such child is admitted to membership by the Council of the Wyandotte Tribe.

## ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP OF COUNCIL

The supreme governing body of the Tribe shall be the Wyandotte Council. The membership of the Wyandotte Council shall be all Wyandotte Indians residing in Oklahoma; males, 21 years of age; and females, 18 years of age.

## ARTICLE V — OFFICERS

The officers of the Tribe shall be the Chief, Second Chief, Secretary-Treasurer, and two councilmen, who shall be elected at an open Council meeting by a majority vote of the membership present.

## ARTICLE VI — BUSINESS COMMITTEE

There shall be a Business Committee which shall consist of the officers and councilmen as provided in Article V.

The Business Committee shall have power to transact business and otherwise speak or act on behalf of the Wyandotte Tribe, in all matters on which the Tribe is empowered to act. The powers of the Tribe shall be set forth in detail in the corporate charter to be requested by the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE VII — STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Grievance Committee.—This committee shall be elected by the Council and shall not include any members of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Credit Committee.—This committee shall be chosen by the Business Committee and shall act under the supervision of the Business Committee.

SEC. 3. Welfare Committee.—This committee shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

SEC. 4. Education Committee.—This committee likewise shall be chosen in the same manner as the Credit Committee.

## ARTICLE VIII — ANNUAL MEETINGS

Annual meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of September of each year for the election of officers and receiving reports and any other business which may come regularly before the Council. The term of office shall be for two years or until their successors are elected and installed, provided that the present officers shall serve until the first regular election. Regular elections shall be held each odd-numbered year. Nominations shall be from the floor. Election shall be by standing vote or by written ballot, a majority vote being necessary to elect. Where there are more than two candidates and no one receives a majority vote the low candidate shall be eliminated and voting proceed until one candidate receives a majority of votes cast. The newly elected officers shall be installed immediately upon their election.

## ARTICLE IX — VACANCIES

Vacancies in any elective office shall be filled at any regular or special meeting of the Wyandotte Council.

## ARTICLE X — GRIEVANCES

The Grievance Committee shall investigate complaints of misconduct or other acts of the members of the Business Committee and upon a proper showing shall call a special meeting of the Wyandotte Council to act upon such complaints. Such Council shall have power, by majority vote, after giving the accused a hearing, to remove him from office and proceed to elect a successor.

## ARTICLE XI — AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution and the attached By-laws may be proposed by a majority vote of the Business Committee or by a petition signed by 30 per cent of the adult members of the Tribe, and if approved by the Secretary of the Interior shall be submitted to a referendum vote of the members of the Tribe, and shall be effective if approved by a majority vote.

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## BY-LAWS OF THE WYANDOTTE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

### ARTICLE I — DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. Chief.—It shall be the duty of the Chief to preside at all meetings and perform all duties appertaining to the office, also to act as chairman of the Business Committee.

SEC. 2. Second Chief.—In the absence of the Chief, the Second Chief shall perform the duties of that officer. In case of vacancy, the Second Chief shall succeed at once to the office of the Chief until the next special or regular election for the office of Chief.

SEC. 3. Secretary-Treasurer.—The Secretary-Treasurer shall correctly record the the proceedings of all meetings. He shall make out the order of the business for the Chief, shall notify all committees of their appointments, shall have custody of the records and all papers of the Council, which records and papers shall be open to inspection at any time, in his presence, by any member of the Council desiring to read them. He shall keep a correct list of all members of the Council, shall authenticate all accounts or orders of the Council and, in the absence of the Chief and Second Chief, shall call the meeting to order until a chairman pro tem is selected. He shall render a written report at the annual meeting and at the expiration of his term of office records and all papers in his possession shall be turned over to his successor. He shall issue notices of all meetings and conduct all general correspondence, as directed by the Council or the Business Committee. He shall receive all moneys of the Council and keep an accurate account of receipts and disbursements.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep all tribal moneys entrusted to his care in a special account and all disbursements therefrom should be made by check. At any time that such account shall amount to more than $50.00, he shall file a bond satisfactory to the Business Committee and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The cost of such bond shall be paid out of tribal moneys.

### ARTICLE II — QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

Any person elected to membership in the Business Committee shall be not less than 25 years of age, a member of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma and a resident of Craig, Delaware or Ottawa Counties in Oklahoma. Any member of the Business Committee removing from such territory shall automatically lose his office.

### ARTICLE III — REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the Council shall be held on the first Tuesday of September of each year at Wyandotte, Oklahoma, unless some other point under the Wyandotte jurisdiction is specifically designated in the call.

SEC. 2. Special meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the Chief, and shall be called by him upon the written request of the majority of the Business Committee or the written request of 30 members of the Tribe.

SEC. 3. The principal object of the special meeting must be stated in the call for same and may include the words "and for the transaction of other business that may be presented". Unless these words are added, no other business can be transacted except for the object stated in the call.

SEC. 4. The regular meetings of the Business Committee shall be held the second Tuesday in each month unless otherwise provided by resolution.

SEC. 5. Special meetings of the Business Committee may be called by the Chief at his discretion, and shall be called by him upon the written request of three members of the Business Committee.

## ARTICLE IV — QUORUM

SECTION 1. Three members of the Business Committee constitute a quorum at any meeting.

SEC. 2. Thirty members of the Wyandotte Council shall constitute a quorum to transact regular business.

## ARTICLE V — ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be effective when approved by the Secretary of the Interior and ratified by a majority vote of the Indians of the Wyandotte Tribe voting at an election called by the Secretary of the Interior under regulations which he may prescribe pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936.

I, Oscar L. Chapman, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority granted me by the Act of June 26, 1936 (49 Stat. 1967), do hereby approve the attached Constitution and By-laws of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma.

All rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Office of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws, are hereby declared inapplicable to the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

Approval recommended July 15, 1937.

WILLIAM ZIMMERMAN, JR.
Assistant Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 17, 1937.

[SEAL]

## CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order, approved July 17, 1937 by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the members of the Wyandotte Tribe and was on July 24, 1937, duly ratified by a vote of 156 for, and none against, in an election in which over 30 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, pursuant to Section 3 of the Oklahoma Indian Welfare Act of June 26, 1936, (Pub. No. 816—74th Cong.).

L. N. COTTER,
Chief, Wyandotte Tribe.

BERTHA CHEEK,
Secretary-Treasurer,
Wyandotte Tribe.

H. A. ANDREWS,
Superintendent.

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